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Champion

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Housing project goes before council planners

Enterprise Award for St John's

Naomi Lloyd (centre) celebrates with her family including grandad Norman Butler who organised her graduation party at the Jynx Bar as a 'thank you' for being his carer for the last six years.

Grandad throws special party for caring Naomi

CARING Naomi Lloyd has just graduated with a law degree... and her disabled grandad was so pleased that he threw a special party to celebrate the good news.

For Naomi's degree success came even though she has been a full time carer for her grandad, 76-year-old Norman Butler.

Naomi, 21, from Old Skelmersdale, lives with and looks after Norman, who suffered a stroke and had a pacemaker fitted in 2013. Despite supporting Norman, Naomi was able to enrol on the three year course at Edge Hill and graduated on Monday, July 17 in a ceremony which was attended by her delighted grandad.

After the ceremony, Norman organised a graduation party for Naomi at the Jynx Bar in Skelmersdale as a special 'thank you' to her for being his carer

Continued inside

FAMILY FORCED FROM HOME BY 50,000 BEES!

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A YOUNG family from Beechtrees were forced to flee their home when a huge bees nest was discovered in the loft.

When Kevin Hilton heard strange vibrations coming from the roof area, he feared there could be wasps making a home for themselves.

However, when Kevin, who lives with his three children and his pregnant wife, Deanna, called the council's pest control service, officers found upwards of 50,000 honey bees circling in the attic!

Council workers then had to call out another department who had to turn to a specialist bee removal service - the Tree Bee Society based in Burscough - an organisation which removes honeybees nationally.

The council's housing department rehoused the family while the bees were carefully removed, but then Kevin was stung to learn that the council had charged him for helping to get rid of the problem. ***Cont. inside***

Bees swarm all over Kevin Hilton's house. Inset: Kevin with Rosie Cooper MP

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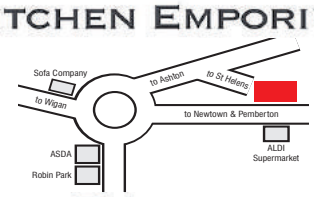

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New series of community action days in borough

THE West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is once again inviting residents in the borough to take part in a series of Community Action and Engagement Days in their neighbourhood featuring representatives from West Lancs Council, police and fire service officers and other agencies.

Community action days are planned for Tanhouse, Old Skelmersdale, Digmoor, Little Digmoor, Moorside and the Scott Estate in Ormskirk. Each will aim to improve working relationships, increase community confidence and reduce the fear of crime.

West Lancs Council has said that previous action days in the borough have been a great success, proving that community spirit is alive and well.

Councillor Kevin Wright, cabinet member for community safety, said: "I hope residents will take part in the community action days, use the skips and talk to staff from the council, police and other agencies about any concerns they have about crime, community safety and other issues."

Community skips, funded by the CSP, will be on site from 9.30am and removed the same day, once full.

The dates and venues for the events are as follows:

Tuesday, August 8: Little Digmoor - Acregate, outside of Singhs Shop.

Councillor Kevin Wright

Wednesday, August 9: Digmoor - Banksbarn/Blythewood.

Thursday, August 10: Moorside - Near to Digmoor Parade.

Tuesday, August 15: Tanhouse - Ennerdale in car park.

Wednesday, August 16: Old Skelmersdale - High Street, Woodrow.

Thursday, August 17: Scott Estate - Scott Drive.

A range of CSP agencies wil attend to offer support and advice on a range of themes.

Issues

The council's environmental enforcement team will provide information on environmental issues and conduct visual audits with the council's estates management team and fire fervice personnel.

The police will hold a street surgery on each day to meet residents. Police officers will also carry out bike security marking, which will be backed up with 'Alpha Dot' stickers that are a high visibility deterrent to potential thieves. The only day this will not be available will be Thursday, August 10 .

Fire Service personnel will meet people to arrange home fire safety checks and give information about fire safety issues.

On Wednesday and Thursday, August 16 and 17 Young Addaction will be available to offer advice and support on substance misuse issues including drugs and alcohol.

Lancashire Wellbeing will be on hand to help anyone who has concerns over their finances, health and fitness, mobility and transport, relationships and family, employment and housing. The organisation can also help people feeling anxious, stressed, isolated, or simply overwhelmed and unable to cope, and can be contacted at www,lancswellbeing.co.uk.

David Tilleray, chairman of the West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership, said: "Community action days are great events for local communities and I'd like to pay tribute to all the organisations, ward councillors and individual residents who help make them successful."

And police chief inspector Jill Halliwell added: "We hope to see as many people as possible at the community action days and look forward to speaking to them."

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Family forced out of home by honey bees

From page 1

Kevin made a beeline to his MP Rosie Cooper who slammed the borough council for charging the family.

She said: "The initial reaction from pest control was poor. This is a council property and the tenant has acted responsibly reporting the issue to them."

"I am delighted that the Housing Department reacted so well offering the family temporary accommodation while the bees were moved but was shocked to find they had been charged a fee by pest control."

A spokesman for West Lancashire Council responded: "As a responsible landlord West Lancashire Borough Council takes the safety and wellbeing of its tenants very seriously.

"The council's pest control service was initially called for a treatment for wasps at the property, but discovered the insects to be honey bees.

"Whilst not protected, the council is very conscious of their positive role in the environment and seeks to remove honeybees rather than to use insecticide.

"Dependent on the location of the bees, treatment or removal can be a complex process that may require structural work to property.

"On this occasion, the bees were in the walls of the property rather than the loft, which required additional work to remove the insects that were beyond the scope of pest control service.

"The council's pest control staff referred that matter to the council's housing staff. As the landlord they were able to make the additional arrangements for the bees to be removed.

"The council does not normally refund the charge made for pest control call outs, but as the tenant's landlord it has decided on this occasion to offer a refund."

MP Rosie Cooper welcomed the council decision saying: "I am glad that pest control had a change of heart and decided to refund the charge."

She added: "It was a surprise to me that the organisation which moves honeybees nationally is based in Burscough.

"I am very impressed with their work moving and protecting much needed honey bees, that I will be visiting them over the summer."

According to the Tree Bee Society, a not-for-profit Community Interest Company (CIC), whose core aim is to save and protect Great Britain's bumble and honey bees, the natural habitat for honey bees is tree cavities, but quite often they set up new colonies in our properties and homes. The company offers a nationwide service for their removal.

Director Abigail Reade said that there is nothing to be afraid of if you come across a honey bee nest, and they only become aggressive if you disturb their nest.

The bees were given a new home at the Burscough site of TBS where they will be cultivated for honey.

Funding galore for rail projects in London... but where is the cash for Skem's new station?

Report by **Henry James**

Campaigners rally to support Greater Manchester mayor's call for more money for the north

CONCERNED rail campaigners who want to see a train station in Skelmersdale, have backed calls for more funding to head up North rather than be showered on London projects.

They are supporting Greater Manchester mayor Andy Burnham who slammed a government decision to cancel funding for rail electrification in the north while backing London's Crossrail 2.

Burnham criticised transport secretary Chris Grayling after the minister said the electrification of the Manchester to Newcastle line would be downgraded, but added a new rail route into the capital is still on the agenda.

A study for the Institute for Public Policy Research north showed that the region would have picked up £59bn more business over the last 10 years if it been given the same infrastructure funding as the capital.

A new railway station for Skelmersdale has been talked about for decades. Earlier this year, the former Glenburn Sports College/Westbank Campus site was confirmed as the preferred location for the station.

At the time, the then cabinet member for highways and transport – County Councillor John Fillis, pictured right, said: "There is still a long way to go on this project, but identifying the right site is really a significant milestone on the way."

Rail campaigner Cllr John Fillis

The project is expected to cost in the region of £200m and is believed to be 10 years down the line. The track would link into the Liverpool line via Kirkby and Manchester via Wigan, as well as providing access to Preston and the proposed HS2.

The Skelmersdale track would run off the existing Kirkby to Wigan line, running in and out along Whiteledge Road with road bridges over Grimshaw Road and Gillibrands Road, and gaining access into the town under the M58 motorway.

Skelmersdale resident John Ramos wrote: "West Lancs Council should team up with the Liverpool Metro Mayor, or other potential partners to finally bring a railway link and station to Skelmersdale.

"London gets record sums of money for things such as Crossrail and HS2, but the North has limited rail links and struggles to get modern fast electric links.

"What are the authorities doing to get Skelmersdale a rail link and get this project off the ground?"

Social housing plan for Castlehey farm site goes before borough council

Report by **Henry James**

PLANS to build 23 social houses at the former Sutches Farm in Castlehey, Skelmersdale were discussed at the West Lancashire Borough Council Planning Committee on Thursday, July 27.

At the meeting councillors decided to delegate the decision to the director of development and regeneration in consultation with the chairman or vice chairman of the planning committee.

The application has been submitted by Edison Developments Ltd who want to redevelop the site and build 23 affordable homes with access via Castlehey. The units will be both two and three bed two-storey properties with car parking at the front and garden space at the rear. The housing will be for rent.

As the New Town of Skelmersdale grew the former farmstead remained undeveloped. There used to be a number of listed buildings linked with the farm. After a number of fires at the site since 2007 no listed buildings remain.

An image of the proposed Castlehey development

The director of Development and Regeneration at the council John Harrison wrote in a report for the meeting that "on balance" he was satisfied that the design, layout and scale complies with local plan policies and the council's Design Guide and that it would not "adversely affect" the character and appearance of the local area.

He also looked at residential amenity and commented that the "residential amenity of the existing properties and the proposed development will be acceptable."

Mr Harrison noted that there was a shortfall in onsite parking but added: "I am satisfied that the development will not be detrimental to highway safety or the free flow of traffic in the vicinity of the site."

In conclusion, Mr Harrison wrote, "I am satisfied that the proposal is acceptable in principle and will maintain and provide adequate amenity levels for neighbouring and future occupants of the development.

"Adequate car parking has been provided for the development in this location and any trees of significance will be retained."

Naomi is my rock, says grandad Norman, 76

From page 1

Norman said: "Naomi has been a rock to me since she moved in after her mum moved to Cornwall six years ago.

"She does the shopping, cooking and cleans the house. She has had no financial help. She also looked after my wife Brenda before she died two years ago.

"She is a good kid and is no bother at all. I would be lost without her.

"I don't know what I would do if she got married and moved out. She is an angel. Her mum brought her up well!

"Naomi was going to be a midwife, but she changed her mind and decided to do law.

"She thought being a midwife would be too stressful, but she has put much work in towards her law degree and it's paid off.

" I will hopefully live to see her go far."

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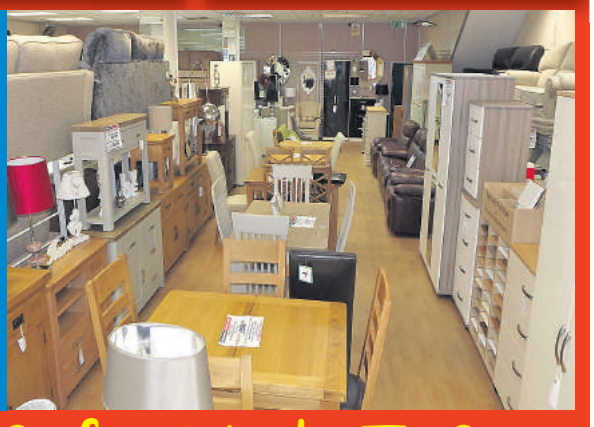

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Veterans' Association members mark sixth month anniversary

Report by **Henry James**

MEMBERS of Skelmersdale Veterans' Association have been celebrating the six months anniversary since the organisation was founded. Since the association was started, members have engaged with the public and worked with different agencies across Skelmersdale and West Lancashire.

They now have more than 20 members, one honorary member, and have gained a new Padre, which is Michael Thompson from St Richard's Church in Old Skelmersdale.

Members have also taken part in a number of different activities, such as fundraising, visiting schools, and care homes. They have also organised a Fun Day at the Hare and Hounds pub in Skelmersdale and an Armed Forces Day in Skelmersdale.

The association plans to hold a fun day at the Hare and Hounds. They are organising another fun day for their sponsors Hotter Shoes and a fun day at Skelmersdale Football club.

The veterans are also staging a three course meal and disco on Saturday, September 9 from 6.15pm-11pm at Evermoor Hub in Digmoor. The event is open to anyone from the military as well as their family and friends. Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Neil Furey will open the evening. Tickets are £10 per person and is for over 18s only. Funds raised will go towards the Mayor's charities and the association.

The association are also going to be involved in a Civic Service at St Richard's on Sunday, September 3 and will have their Union Flag on parade. Members are working in partnership with different agencies like: Wigan Athletic Community Trust, West Lancashire Independence Advice Group and Evermoor Hub on a Walking Football project and Breakfast club. It will be held once a month and will be open to any members of the armed forces.

Members of Skelmersdale Veteran's Association at Ormskirk train station

The veterans are working on a Community Memorial Garden as well for other former military personnel and their families. The association are hoping to have the garden up and running by November 11 2018, which would be the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.

Alan Lewis from Skelmersdale Veterans' Association said: "The association would like to thank a number of different companies and agencies across Skelmersdale and West Lancashire including: the Hare and Hounds, Mike Vella, JMO Football and Skelmersdale Action for Youth.

"The association would like to thank all the young people who have engaged with them throughout the six months. Finally we would like to say a very big thank you to the Skelmersdale Champion for their support throughout the six months."

Rain didn't dampen spirits

RAIN might have caused a switch of venue but it certainly didn't dampen spirits at the St Richard's Church Grand Garden Fete at the weekend.

Originally scheduled to be held at the church in Liverpool Road, instead it was switched to St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School in Blakehall.

It was opened by Mayor and Mayoress of West Lancashire, Councillor Neil and Mrs Julie Furey.

Co-ordinator, Maureen Fazal, said: "Our garden fete was the result of great teamwork by our organising group and tremendous support from our parish, and friends from the wider community.

"We're delighted that the Mayor and Mayoress kindly agreed to open the fete for us, which we wanted to have a traditional feel with home produce, traditional games and afternoon teas, as well as many other activities and something for all the family."

Campaigners say 2002 Whitemoss predictions have 'come true'

CAMPAIGNERS against the Whitemoss hazardous waste extension have said that a Green Paper in 2002 that proposed that Parliament and not local councils would be able to grant planning permission for major developments predicted what has happened in the town at the site. ARROW has added that Whitemoss bosses were able to use this change in the law when they put in an extension application.

Nicola Escott commented: "The predictions made in 2002 came true when in 2014 Whitemoss hazardous waste site used the new legislation. They applied to the Government to override Lancashire County Council's decision to stop them from building a massive extension.

"The Government ignored local democracy. Both Lancashire County Council and West Lancashire Borough Council said the Whitemoss hazardous waste extension was not needed, but they were overruled by the Secretary of State. Since then, the only way of stopping this unnecessary landfill site and the health risk it creates is to go to court. A local resident has been taking legal action since 2015."

An appeal is about to be made to the Supreme court. If the case is won, other nationally significant infrastructure projects across the country are likely to be required to prove their development is needed.

Whitemoss boss Rob Routledge said: "Whitemoss was legally obliged to make an application to the Planning Inspectorate for the extension to the landfill site rather than to Lancashire County Council. The council never had an application for planning permission for the extension to consider or reject. There was an extensive consultation process that included an Examination in Public before three independent planning inspectors. ARROW were represented throughout that process."

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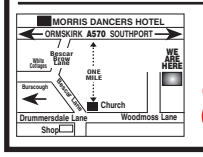

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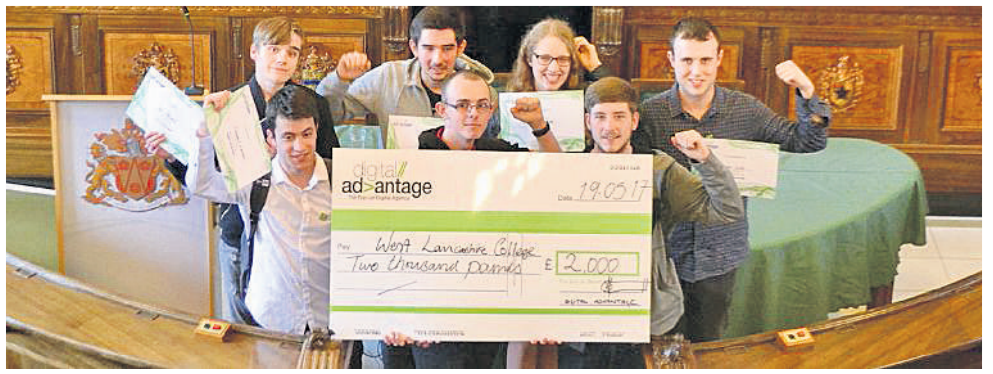

The winning West Lancs College students celebrate collecting their cheque for £2,000

Students 'cheque' in for digital challenge prize!

SAVVY students at West Lancashire College were celebrating after winning a county-wide digital design competition and a cheque for £2,000 with their app for festival-goers.

The Digital Advantage project has been developed by working with industry leaders from trade association Digital Lancashire, as well as Creative Lancashire, in collaboration with the Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub. It is funded by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

The aim is to help students improve their digital skills, knowledge and experience.

Industry trainers take the students through a programme to develop a prototype digital business, and then pitch it to an industry panel.

And their achievements were recognised at a special graduation event at County Hall, Preston.

Ten schools and colleges from across the county took part in the pilot with the team from West Lancs College being named as winners with their ConnectAvent app.

The £2,000 prize will support them to turn their prototype into a business.

ConnectAvent was the unanimous choice of the industry judging panel.

Digital Advantage trainer, Simon Calderbank said: "The app created by West Lancs College is a brilliant concept that we all knew stood a great chance of landing first prize. It's built on a solid platform of research and analysis, with a robust business model to boot.

"The product was designed for festival-goers and music lovers and I'm excited about the future partnership options available to the team. This is an incredibly talented and tenacious bunch."

The college were supported by online ticket agency Skiddle, who are looking to help the students take their idea to market.

College lecturer, Anjuman Robinson, said: "This has been a fantastic opportunity for our students to develop their personal skills, while working collaboratively as part of a dynamic team. It has provided a simulation of a real world agency giving the students invaluable experience of working on a creative digital technology project.

"Winning the £2,000 prize has given other students a real sense of self belief to achieve something great themselves. We are all tremendously proud of our students and the emergence of robust employability skills, which will help them to secure a prosperous future career."

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Much loved priest laid to rest at village church

Report by **Kenny Parker**

AFTER the hearse that carried the coffin of the much loved local priest, Reverend Simon Glynn, to his funeral, accompanied by five motorcycle outriders, Rev. Neil Short, who officiated, quipped that Simon 'always liked to make an entrance.'

The vicar of St John the Baptist's Burscough, who had commenced his ministry a year earlier by riding a motorbike to a celebration event at Burscough Wharf flanked by four outriders, was laid to rest following a service at the church on Friday, July 28.

So many attended that there was standing room only in the church and the service was also relayed outside so that hundreds of others who were unable to get in could hear. Simon was also well known in Skelmersdale and had many friends in the town.

The service, led by former St John the Baptist's vicar Rev Short with the support of Rev Elliott Ireton, the church's current curate, included family tributes to Simon given by one of his friends, which spoke warmly of a loving husband and father and man dedicated to his faith.

Rev Short spoke humorously and compassionately about Simon's life and faith and the troubling questions that arise at moments like this.

The Bishop of Liverpool, Rt Rev Paul Bayes, and Rev Short committed Simon's body to burial in the churchyard at the end of the service.

Among the hundreds attending were people from the church community, the town, and the places where Simon had previously worshipped and served. A number of clergy from across the diocese were also present.

Motorcycle outriders escort the funeral cortege through Burscough.

Rev Simon Glynn's funeral at St John the Baptist Church in Burscough last Friday.

'Simon always loved to make an entrance'

Stuart Haynes, Director of Communications for the Diocese of Liverpool and Liverpool Cathedral, said: "It was a fitting, moving and at times joyous celebration of Simon's life and a fitting way to say goodbye to a much loved priest and friend."

Rev Simon Glynn created quite a stir in 2009 when he arrived as the new priest-in-charge at All Saints, Appley Bridge, and Christ Church, Parbold, by helicopter, which was provided free of charge.

Called the Flying Vicar, Rev Glynn said at the time: "As a lad I cherished an ambition to sky dive, but nothing came of it.

"Now I'm being airlifted by helicopter because I want those who come to our churches to experience new things and enjoy their faith.

"I want to help us find the 'God dimension.' Inner peace and security are priceless qualities, especially in these troubled times."

Before his appointment at Appley Bridge and Parbold, Rev Glynn was curate for St John the Baptist in Burscough and before that he was a manager at Pilkington Architectural, St Helens.

He died last week aged 58 following a short illness. He is survived by his wife Clare and sons, Sam and Joel.

Rev Simon Glynn who passed away last week

Enterprising youngsters!

PUPILS at a primary school in Skelmersdale have shown they have potential to be businessmen and women of the future after they picked up an Enterprise Award in an event to make their own smoothies.

St. John's Primary school in Flamstead, won the competition which was organised by Procter and Gamble.

The enterprise project was run through the Shares company and invited primary schools in the town to enter. The aim was to help children learn about business, by asking young people to design and make their own smoothie, and then brand it and advertise it to sell.

Each school has had since January to complete the tasks, and the finals took place on Tuesday, July 11 at Procter and Gamble.

The managers and their team showed the children around and acted as judges to the school's Dragon's Den pitches about their product and their profits.

St. John's was chosen as the overall winner of the six month enterprise project, and won £500 for the school as their prize.

Bethany Rimmer, Year 5 class teacher at St. John's primary school said: "The children worked so hard for this and I am very proud of the ambition and motivation in the children to achieve and show such positive attitudes towards business.

"The children in Year 5 at St John's have decided to spend their winnings on their Year 6 final trip to Tower Wood, or towards the school council funds for playground equipment."

The children with their stand

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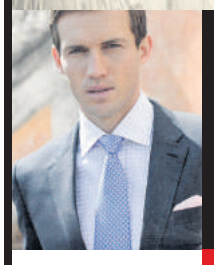

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Southport and Ormskirk Hospital and, inset, MP Rosie Cooper

MP demands answers over hospital's future

By **Danielle Thompson**

ROSIE Cooper is demanding a meeting with NHS bosses to discuss the future of the Southport and Ormskirk Hospital Trust.

The West Lancs MP was responding to statements issued last week by the chair of the trust and Southport's new Conservative MP, Damien Moore, that Southport Hospital's future was safe and an announcement by Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) officials that they were going to look at the sustainability of Southport and Ormskirk Hospital.

She said: "The right hand doesn't know what the left is doing about Southport and Ormskirk Hospital.

"It's a disgrace that the STP should announce a review into the hospital at the end of the Parliamentary term when ministers can't be questioned about it. The STP and the government need to be clear – will the hospital in its present form remain open – yes or no?

"I have demanded a meeting with the STP leaders with the chair and chief executive of Southport and Ormskirk Hospital present to try and discover the truth of their plans.

"Southport A&E is already threatened by the STP, this move threatens the hospital and the people of West Lancashire will not put up with services being reduced any more. Already services such as the urgent care and out of hours services have been privatised and my constituents have found them less than satisfactory.

"The urgent care centre used to be open 8am to 10pm. Slowly but surely that has been reduced and it now closes at 8pm which reduces its value to my constituents.

"I'm already worried that the urgent care centre does not always have a GP on duty. I call on NHS bosses to explain why we are seeing West Lancashire's NHS services threatened and eroded by the day."

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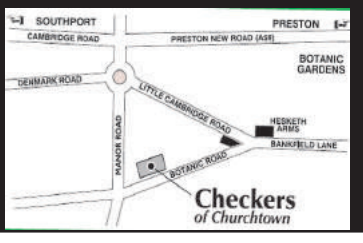

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No more paracetamol on prescription

Report by **Henry James**

CCG to cease funding 'low-value' treatments and gluten free products from September 4 as part of healthcare costs review

THE NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group has announced that treatments considered to be of low clinical value, and gluten free products, will no longer be available on prescription in the borough from Monday, September 4.

At its recent board meeting the CCG approved a recommendation from its medicines optimisation committee and clinical executive committee, supported by local GP practices, to cease the funding of items to be considered of low clinical value.

These include:

- Treatments for minor ailments, such as paracetamol and ibuprofen,
- Treatments where there is little evidence that they have a real clinical benefit, such as cough syrups.
- Products that do not require clinical treatment, such as bath/shower products.
- Gluten free products which were previously available on prescription for people diagnosed with coeliac disease.

Last year, the CCG spent some £461,000 on low clinical value items and gluten free products, with further expense to NHS England on dispensing fees.

Any savings made from the proposed changes would be reimbursed back into savings within West Lancashire to benefit the community. That figure (£416,000) could, for example, be spent on 4,079 A&E attendances, 4,044 MRI scans, an additional 12,805 GP appointments or 115 stroke treatments.

Gluten free were made available on prescription when they were not readily available from supermarkets. However, today products are easily obtained, product ranges have expanded and prices are more competitive.

Nicola Baxter, head of medicines optimisation at NHS West Lancashire CCG, said: "To meet increasing demands for costs of healthcare we are reviewing what we currently commission in accordance with these principles."

Following the recommendation CCG chiefs launched an engagement exercise to gather public perceptions. A survey was published and shared with the local population.

Nicola added: "We had a significant response from our survey and held public events, to meet with and get the views of residents about our proposed plans.

"Feedback was largely in support of our plans for low clinical value items. However, although the majority of respondents were also in favour of our plans around gluten free products, two main concerns were raised about people having to buy their own food on low incomes and not all shops stocking gluten free foods or supply issues.

"While we understand this will be an adjustment for those patients who have come to rely on gluten free foods on prescription, shop-bought items are still affordable and there is also of course the option to buy naturally gluten free products such as rice and potatoes.

"We will now work closely with patients and support groups to identify what information and support patients need to enable them to identify appropriate dietary advice and sources of appropriate gluten free foods."

GP practices are now in the process of writing to all patients currently receiving gluten free products on prescription who will be affected by the decision.

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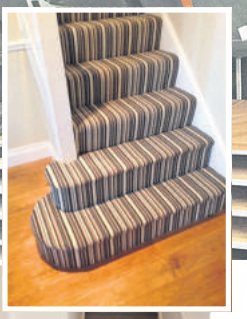
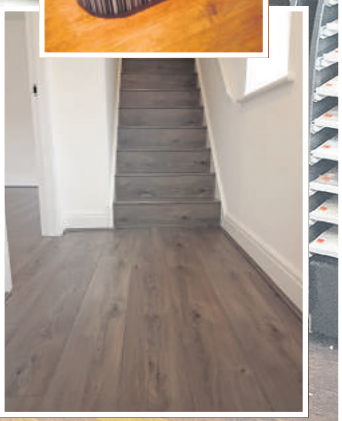
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Recruitment events for on-call fire fighters

LANCASHIRE Fire and Rescue Service are holding an Open Evening event tonight (Wednesday, August 2) to recruit new on-call firefighters.

The event will run from 6.30pm at Ormskirk Fire Station in County Road and will take the form of an informal discussion session about what the role entails with potential candidates invited to ask any questions they may have.

Recruitment events for retained firefighters working on an on-call basis are also being held at Tarleton and Skelmersdale fire stations from 7 to 9pm tonight (Wednesday August 2) and at all three stations from 7 to 9pm on Wednesday, August 9.

Applicants must be aged 18-plus; have a good level of fitness; live or work within five minutes of the nearest station; have good eyesight and hearing (aided/unaided); and be literate and numerate.

They will also be required to complete application and medical form and take fitness and psychometric tests.

For more information email recruitment@lancsfirerescue.org.uk; call 01772 866812; or attend one of the events above.

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Club v council row is just not cricket!

FOR many years, all my working life in fact, I have supported parish-cum-town councils. To me, they represent the closest you can get to true local government, made up as they are of folk who actually live in the locality and do the job for no financial return.

Whatever political party they represent (though I am still convinced that party politics really have no role to play at this level) every single Jack or Jill must have a genuine interest in keeping and increasing the best for their own community.

So it makes me sad that in my home town, Maghull, the town council is presently involved in two arguments, both of which will have a significant impact on the place in which we all live.

Worst by far is a wrangle over the future of our local, very successful, cricket club and its lovely home ground, surrounded as it is by trees and backing onto the canal.

I am not going into details, or publicly taking sides, but it all centres on who pays for what - the council or the club. Harsh words have been spoken on both sides and I greatly fear an irreparable rift unless an amicable solution is found - and quickly, before either says something the other will never forgive or forget.

The council has even been accused of deliberately trying to force the closure of the long-established club, though why on earth they should want to do that completely baffles me.

Again, I must reiterate that the councillors, just as much as the cricketers, would stand to lose a valued local facility. Such a result, which could happen if both sides of the argument remain intransigent, would be a disaster for the town. And the daft thing is that both know this perfectly well. If their differences cannot be solved over a pint and sandwiches, then perhaps the whole matter should be referred to some sort of neutral ombudsman.

The other concerns a plan by the town council to put a 'performance area' - or bandstand as it was originally touted - on one of its major parks.

Costed at under £25,000 it doesn't seem that expensive to me, given that it would provide an additional benefit to the public hopefully for many years to come.

No doubt, quite a number of the 'performances' staged on it would not necessarily be to my taste, but presumably it would provide a public opportunity for our schools and local groups to strut their stuff. And on a more formal note, the well-regarded Maghull Wind Orchestra could perhaps play there on sunny summer Sunday afternoons, and possibly well-known brass bands from further afield as well.

Before I returned to Maghull, I worked in Colchester, an historic town that almost inevitably sported a traditional bandstand in its famous Castle Park. I spent many hours there enjoying the music, along with dozens of others, including whole families, who brought along picnics for a free afternoon's entertainment.

Now one of the major objections to this 'entertainment area' for Maghull is that it would be a magnet for anti-social behaviour. Well, of course it might attract mindless idiots, though it will be protected by CCTV. But this argument could be used to quash almost any kind of social development in the town.

I remember the public opposition some years ago now to the installation of basketball hoops in two or three of our parks. They would attract yobbos, noise, the end of life as we know it. Yet the council went ahead (the basketball equipment was given for free) and guess what happened? Nothing. Except the occasional game of (a kind of) basketball by local youngsters.

Parish/town councils are often accused of "doing nothing but cut the grass." Not so, but I bet it's many of the same accusers who are now opposing them when they try to do something.

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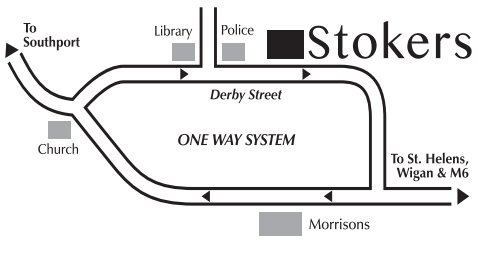

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County council chiefs launch cross-party consultation on plans to boost bus network

LANCASHIRE County Council chiefs say they are taking a 'major step towards improving the county's bus network' with councillors meeting to discuss where investment is most needed.

The council's new administration has committed to make an extra £1m available to support bus services, increasing the budget from £2m to £3m.

It says key priorities are to restore lost links between communities, particularly in rural areas where people who don't drive or own a car rely most on public transpor; to increase the frequency of services on routes where there is more demand; and to stabilise the network to support routes which might otherwise disappear.

County Councillor Andrew Snowden, the county's lead member for highways and transport, has started a cross-party consultation for councillors to consider draft proposals for improving services and put forward their ideas.

He said: "I'm keen to ensure passengers benefit from the improvements to bus services we promised as soon as possible. I have already been working with officers on some draft proposals for how we could best meet the needs of communities with the new funding.

County Councillor Andrew Snowden, lead member for highways and transport

"However, I also want to ensure that county councillors have the opportunity to input into work on behalf of the communities they represent and raise any issues they are aware of which will help to make sure the proposals we eventually bring forward have a real impact and provide the best possible value for money.

"A good public transport network is vital to support our economy, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to access work and education.

Impact

"It also plays a vital role in helping people to carry out everyday tasks such as doing their shopping, visiting family and friends, and getting to health appointments.

"This extra funding will make a significant impact in supporting and supplementing the commercial network to link communities which might otherwise have no or very little public transport, and help to ensure transport connections across Lancashire are as effective as possible."

Following consultation with councillors, which begins with drop-in sessions being held, proposals will be presented to the county council's cabinet on Thursday, September 14.

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Access to Justice for Employees is Restored

Since tribunal fees were introduced in July 2013 so many people have been denied access to justice where they have been unfairly dismissed, discriminated against or otherwise unfairly treated by their employers.

Initially fees started at a fairly modest £160 but they quickly rose such that for many claimants it would cost £1,200 just to bring a claim not including solicitors' fees for preparing the case or for representation. Of course, when you have just lost your job is the time you feel most financial vulnerable and least able to take a 'gamble' on tribunal fees to pursue your claim.

In a somewhat embarrassing reverse to its justice policies, the government last week announced the abolition of employment tribunal fees after the Supreme Court ruled them unlawful on 26 July 2017. The Law Society described the decision as 'an urgently needed wake-up call' and made the point that 'justice must never be a luxury for those who can afford it, it is a right we all share.'

The trade union Unison brought the revolutionary action arguing the fees prevented thousands of employees, especially those on low incomes, from getting justice if badly treated by employers. The Supreme Court admitted that the right balance had not been struck and said it would take immediate steps to stop fees and put in place arrangements to refund those who have paid. The refund is expected to cost £32 million.

What remains uncertain is if the promise to pay refunds will also apply to employers ordered by tribunals to reimburse fees incurred by winning employees. In terms of what else this means for employers, we anticipate that employers will find it harder to agree early settlements given employees will now have less of a deterrent to commence proceedings.

For claimants who might have not brought claims because of the cost of tribunal fees, now is the time to seek legal advice on the prospects of getting an extension of time to bring claims. On the other hand, employers that were playing a waiting game to see if the employee would start a claim before considering conciliating might be wise to engage earlier and/or offer increased settlement sums.

If you are an employee and would like an assessment of your case or if you are an employer who is dealing with the threat of action from an employee call or email Jennifer Wall at Dickinson Parker Hill for comprehensive legal advice.

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Community projects awarded grants totalling £80,000 from Whitemoss Fund

Five schemes are latest to benefit from landfill company's support

Report by **Henry James**

FIVE local groups are celebrating after being awarded grants totalling around £80,000 through the Whitemoss Community Fund.

The successful applicants beat stiff competition from 10 other local projects as a result of the level of community benefit they will each deliver.

Biggest beneficiaries of the latest handouts were the trustees of Westhead Village Hall who were granted £19,734 to improve the building and encourage community use. The hall was taken over by the local community when it faced closure in 2016.

Ian Davis, treasurer and trustee, said: "We are extremely grateful for the grant. This will enable renovation and improvement of the hall which will increase the life and continue to provide excellent facilities for the residents of Westhead and surrounding areas for many years to come."

Meanwhile communities in Crawford Village and Burscough will both benefit from awards of around £18,500.

The grant awarded to Crawford Village and Pimbo Lane Playing Fields was the final piece in the jigsaw to allow their £90,000 Play Park project to be completed.

And Burscough Cricket Club will use their grant award to create a new picnic and play area adjacent to the club which will be a welcome stopping point for people enjoying a walk on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal towpath alongside.

Gordon Anderson, trustee at Burscough Cricket Club, said: "We are absolutely delighted to receive this award which enables us to continue working towards introducing more of the local residents, schoolchildren and visitors into what will become our new picnic and wildlife area.

"This will be accessible from the canal bank throughout the year and also links into the new pathway along the boundary of our ground to the village, with the recently installed fencing also providing a safe route for walkers."

Quarry Bank Community Association were awarded £16,484 to install two shipping containers in the grounds at the rear of the community building and transform them into a fully-accessible 'Men's Shed' workshop.

Despite its title the workshop will be available to all with activities such as woodwork, bike repairing, mechanics and furniture restoration on offer.

Up Holland Parish Council is set to receive £6,060 to improve a stretch of footpath in the popular local woodland area of Dean Wood.

The scheme will include drainage and footpath works to make access easier throughout the year and reduce access problems caused by flooding.

Parish council chairman, Councillor Barry Hale, said: "Thanks to this grant there will be a further increase in the number of walkers visiting this historic woodland."

Financed by Whitemoss Landfill Limited who operate the landfill site in Skelmersdale, the Whitemoss Community Fund has awarded grants of between £5,000 and £20,000 for community projects surrounding the site each year since 2010. This year's awards take the total handed out by the fund to £415,000 which has been shared between 34 local projects.

Rob Routledge, chair of the fund's advisory grroup, said: "Whitemoss Landfill is committed to supporting our local community and to protecting the environment. We are pleased that by funding these valuable local projects the Community Fund has helped in the delivery of both these objectives by facilitating important improvements to community facilities and the local environment."

For more details about the fund visit www.grantscape.org.uk or call Liz Payne on 01282 543775.

Phase 1 of the Crawford Village Play Park - the £18,500 award will enable the £90,000 project to be completed

ARCH

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
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MP's words were heartening but when will we see some action?

IT was heartening to hear that our MP for West Lancashire, Rosie Cooper, has spoken out about the poor and sometimes non-existent facilities, amenities, transport links and adequate housing in Skelmersdale in a debate in Parliament about the challenges facing New Towns.

It's true when she spoke of the town being built around the car and that there are no pavements along the lengths of most roads.

The town's planners/designers most probably worked to a blueprint of keeping vehicles and pedestrians segregated, but I believe that was a step too far.

Some roads should have pavements running beside them for the easy passage of pedestrians because at present there are those who risk life and limb by walking along the roads. Down the years people have lost their lives or have been injured doing this.

The need to get a railway station installed in the town centre has hit the buffers in that we have been informed it will take seven to 10 years for it to come to fruition.

I would wager people in Skelmersdale did not realise how far away Rainford Junction is that it should take so long to lay track into the town from there.

I believe no plans/diagrams have been produced to show the exact route the line will take to bring it into the town centre. I'm hoping it will not affect any future flyover at the Southway/Ormskirk Road junction.

It has been proposed that the old Westbank/Glenburn school site is the place where the railway line will terminate, but I don't consider this area as being part of the town centre. The station, in my opinion, would be better served if it was more central and located in what people have always deemed to be the town centre area.

It's all very well when these concerns are debated at Parliament, but to me it's all a load of hot air.

People of Skelmersdale are told this and that will get done, but nothing ever seems to materialise.

When is the day going to dawn when we will see words being turned into substance?

Bill Clarke,
By email

Allowing fauna and flora to thrive as important as tidy verges and roundabouts

HAVING read in the Letters to the Editor column, concerns expressed by readers about the state of the verges, roundabouts and pathways in the area, I was pleased to see that some of the problems have been corrected.

I was also pleased to see that the verges in my area have been cut, but not too severely.

Many will know of the campaigns to protect, particularly bees, but other wildlife too and it is encouraging to see that the council have left areas where these creatures can live, as well as giving the flora a chance to thrive but without causing any visibility issues or looking untidy.

Leaving some areas not manicured would give our wildlife a chance.

Even better if some wildflower seeds could be scattered too.

Roz, Friends of the Earth,
Ormskirk branch

PICTURE of the week

'My, what big ears you have!' A dog and donkey meet face to face at last Saturday's Maghull Fest. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Speed camera needed to put the brakes on ignorant drivers

I AM writing to inform you that there should be a speed camera at the traffic lights on Junction Lane near Rees Park, Burscough.

Many times I have been leaving Rees Park when the lights have changed to green only to have to stop sharply because of drivers running red lights.

These ignorant drivers don't seem to realise that there is an ambulance station on Junction Lane and these lights serve them too, having access onto Junction Lane.

How long is it going to be before someone running the red lights crashes into an ambulance on an emergency call?

Tara Pilkington,
Rees Park, Burscough

Return of bands is music to my ears!

CALLING all music lovers.

I am so glad the music in Coronation Park is back again this year.

On Sunday afternoon I went to listen to the Flixton Brass Band and it was wonderful.

The weather kept fine right until the last piece and it really is a joy to sit and listen to such superb music in the surroundings of our lovely park.

Don't miss out if you love music!

Live music fan,
Ormskirk

Drop us a line...

IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

■ PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.

Don't just reduce the mayor's role - get rid!

RE: Last week's story about the role of the mayor being under threat.

I think it would be the best thing not just to massively reduce the role of the mayor - but to get rid of the mayor's position altogether!

Wandering around appearing at non-event functions and grandstanding to create an impression to inflate councillors' egos is hardly a cost-effective duty.

The creation of the mayor's office was a mistake.

Just get rid of it. Do not waste time trying to cut corners.

If the mayoral portfolio-holder (there must be someone) really wants to make a splash, he can always buy the mayor a bike, out of his own allowance.

Graham P Walker,
Up Holland

So pleased that doctor got award

I JUST want to say how pleased I was to read in the Champion (July 26)that Dr Simon Clark has been shortlisted for an award.

I was diagnosed with macular degeneration by Dr Clark a number of years ago.

Last week I celebrated my birthday - 101 years old - and due to the wonderful care I have received from Aintree ophthalmic department I can still manage to continue stitching Cross in My Pockets to raise money for the eye hospital in Jerusalem.

Kath Thomas,
(101 years young),
Aughton

County councillor quits Tory party to become independent over £1.2m expenses claims

Report by **Henry James**

A NEWLY-elected county councillor from West Lancashire has quit the Conservative party to become an independent in a row over allowances.

Councillor Paul Greenall opted to give up his Derby ward seat on West Lancs Borough Council after winning the West Lancashire East ward in the recent Lancashire County Council elections.

But in a debate on allowances he criticised members of the county council for costing "the taxpayer more than £1.2m last year."

During the debate Cllr. Greenall commented: "Last year, members of this council cost the taxpayer over £1.2m in allowances. Whilst I do not believe councillors should serve their communities for free, I take great issue with the fact that having received a basic allowance of over £10k members are entitled to claim travel and subsistence, when attending meetings at County Hall.

County Councillor Paul Greenall

"I work in the NHS and a university, I work with people from all walks of life, and all income groups, but we all have two things in common - when we attend our normal place of work, we all pay our travel costs, and at meal times, we all buy our own food. Under HMRC rules, we cannot claim these expenses back.

"When politicians are treated differently to ordinary people, something is wrong. And when politicians can claim benefits at taxpayers' expense, benefits which taxpayers themselves cannot claim, something is very wrong indeed. And I feel compelled to highlight these issues."

Cllr. Greenall was seeking to pass two amendments to tackle the issue. Firstly to scrap travel and food allowances for attending County Hall; and secondly to dispense with so-called SRA (special responsibility allowance) payments for group whips and secretaries.

Speaking about the latter he said: "Council taxpayers should not have to fund these political roles."

And he added; "If I allow myself to be suffocated by the ludicrous rules which this Conservative group evidently insist on imposing, or face 'consequences' or 'removal' if I do not, then my ability to serve my community as I intended would be seriously undermined.

"Everything I say in this chamber, would have to be vetted and pre-approved. That would be a betrayal of the key pledge I gave to voters and I refuse to do that.

"Therefore, having discussed this with my family, plus Conservative friends and colleagues in West Lancashire, I feel I have no option but to resign the Conservative Whip at County Hall with immediate effect and serve my community as an independent."

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A section of the award-winning grounds at Edge Hill University

University campus wins prestigous Green Flag award for a sixth year

EDGE Hill University has been recognised by the Green Flag Award Scheme for the sixth consecutive year.

The Ormskirk campus is among a record-breaking 1,797 UK parks and green spaces that have received the prestigious Green Flag Award - the mark of a quality park or green space – this year.

This international award, now into its third decade, is a sign to the public that the space boasts the highest possible environmental standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent visitor facilities.

Neil Toner, grounds manager at the university, said: "We are absolutely delighted to receive a Green Flag Award for a sixth year running. We know how much quality green spaces matter to residents and visitors, and this award celebrates the dedication that goes into maintaining Edge Hill's campus to such a high standard.

"This year we have successfully trialled planting wild meadow flowers around the western campus lake to add colour and enhance biodiversity and are planning to introduce them to more areas.

"Our participation in the National Garden Scheme in June this year showed visitors that great care has been taken to maintain the existing landscape, with more than 300 people attending."

International Green Flag Award scheme manager, Paul Todd, commented: "We are delighted to be celebrating another record-breaking year for the Green Flag Award scheme.

"Each flag is a celebration of the thousands of staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain the high standards demanded by the Green Flag Award.

"The success of the scheme, especially in these challenging times, demonstrates just how much parks matter to people."

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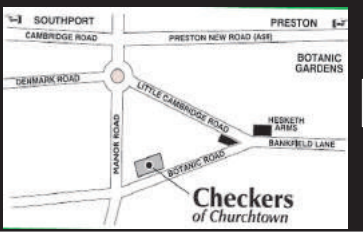

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Council refute OWL claims over car park enforcement cameras

Report by **Kenny Parker**

West Lancs Borough Council are looking to improve car-parking facilities, not to raise more money from motorists

WEST Lancs Council chiefs have denied that plans to install enforcement cameras on Ormskirk's council car parks were dropped after public outcry.

Members of the independent Our West Lancashire (OWL) group claimed the controversial plans had been approved at a confidential meeting in January but said they were dropped after they presented the authority with a petition containing more than 300 signatures.

OWL Councillor Ian Davis described the original plan as "an attempt to raise more money from motorists" and said the cameras, managed by Bemrose Mobile, would have been a deterrent to visitors to the town centre.

However, the council say that while the parking offer had been on the agenda of recent meetings, it was to explore ways to improve the quality of parking rather than the effectiveness of enforcement.

A council statement said: "The council continually looks at ways to help improve its parking offer and is currently investigating if new emerging technologies in relation to parking can be used to help.

"Council officers are currently in discussions with various third-party system providers in relation to proposed changes to parking management and at this stage no formal decisions have been taken in relation to the provision of new parking equipment and associated technologies."

The statement added that at a meeting on July 19 it was resolved to consult widely with the town's businesses and partners in developing a package of new initiatives utilising the latest technologies - such as contactless card payments, chip & pin payments, mobile payments, and automated payments etc. - to increase greater visitor numbers to the town, from both current users and new visitors.

The statement continued: "Public notice of the meeting of cabinet held on January 10 was given, including an agenda item 'Ormskirk Pay and Display Parking System.' Due to the commercial sensitivity this item was considered in the non-public part of the agenda, although the minutes of the decision were published in accordance with normal practice.

"At the cabinet meeting it was determined that new arrangements should be put in place for the management of the pay and display car parks in Ormskirk town centre. The primary purpose for the introduction of new pay and display machines has always been to improve the council's parking offer rather than parking enforcement.

"At no stage has the council made a decision to introduce enforcement cameras by Bemrose Mobile or any other provider. The consideration of the product offered by Bemrose Mobile was part of an options appraisal alongside other options for providing an improved parking offer.

"The council rejected Bemrose Mobile as a possible provider following concerns raised by the Local Government Association."

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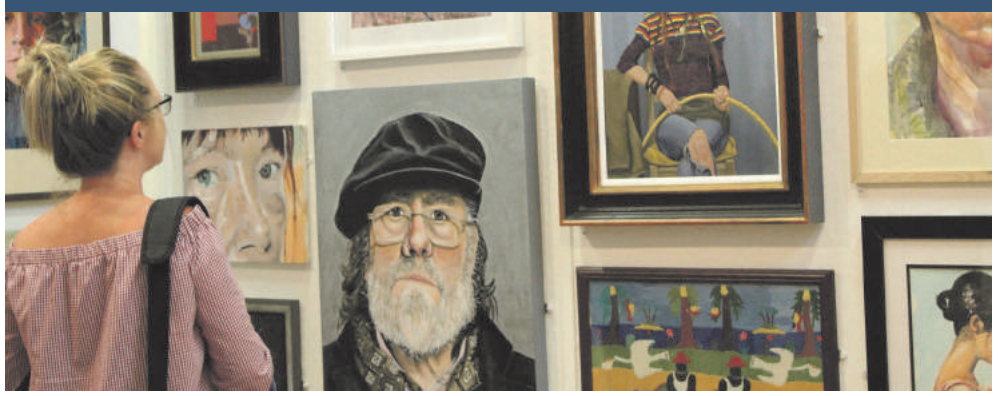

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MP tackles government over 'unfair' flood prevention funding

ROSIE Cooper has tackled the government on what she called "the unfair funding arrangements" to deal with flooding in West Lancashire, specifically addressing the threat by the Environment Agency to turn off Alt Crossens pumping station.

The MP asked First Secretary of State, Damian Green, how the government could continue to justify not providing fair and equitable funding arrangements for West Lancashire to support drainage boards to help protect homes and the agriculture and horticulture industries critical to the local economy.

In reply Mr Green conceded these concerns were "reasonable" and invited her to discuss it further with the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Ms Cooper has been campaigning to set up a drainage board but this would rely heavily on funding which local agencies don't have and the government has so far refused to take responsibility.

The borough MP said: "Residents in West Lancashire are being devastated by flooding increasingly regularly to the point where many live in fear each time it rains.

"Since the Boxing Day floods in 2015, we have seen little to no progress on the setting up of an Independent Drainage Board and a lack of leadership from the designated local lead flood authority, the county council.

"To add to this we have been served the notice of the closure of five satellite pumping stations, which will only exacerbate the situation.

"I will take this opportunity to follow up with the Secretary for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

"We must find a solution to protect residents, businesses and farmland, land that generates £230million of income and provides 2,500 jobs and is a vital sector of our local economy."

Trust volunteers dig in at the double

MEMBERS of the Prince's Trust have been transforming areas across Ormskirk after fundraising for their project by bag-packing.

The five volunteers from Ormskirk Team 14 joined forces with West Lancs Council's Parks and Countryside Rangers Service to create an educational zone to allow community groups to learn in an outdoor environment.

The Princes Trust scheme places recruits on 12-week development courses which include a fully-paid, four-day residential project for the community.

Trust teams, made up of young people aged 16 to 25, are also placed in a suitable two-week work environment enabling them to gain valuable work experience and an appropriate reference. They also gain a qualification at the end, along with other certificates.

Team leader, Jonathon Marlow, said: "The team fundraised at local stores including B&M and Marks and Spencer, as well as receiving generous donations from Hesfords and this allowed them to do two projects, one at Derby Centre and one at Coronation Park creating an educational zone with the rangers.

"One project entailed renovating a garden at the Derby Centre for the elderly and the other was working with the rangers to create a zone to allow community groups to learn in an outdoor environment.

The five volunteers from Team 14 renovated a garden at the Derby Centre

"The team were able to plan and fundraise for two weeks and then complete the two large projects in two weeks by removing unwanted dead plants and weeds and replacing the area with new fresh plants, bark and healthy compost.

"Both areas have been completely renovated!"

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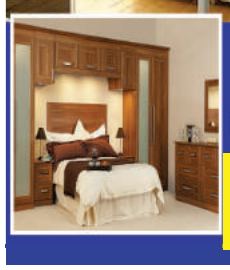

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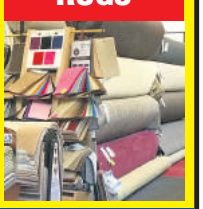

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Lives are being put at risk by irresponsible knife retailers, warn councils

KNIVES are being sold to children as young as 13, council trading standards teams have revealed.

In test purchases across the country, an underage teenager was sold a machete, another was sold a lock knife and a 14-year-old managed to buy a nine-inch serrated knife.

It is illegal to sell knives to anyone aged under 18 and the shock findings have prompted the Local Government Association to call for greater fines and tougher sentences for those retailers that break knife sale laws.

The worrying findings come as latest official figures show a 20 per cent annual rise in knife crime in England and Wales.

Following the recent government proposal to ban home delivery of knives to prevent underage sales, the LGA is calling for the retail industry to fund underage test purchasing operations and work more closely with councils, including Lancashire County County, to help improve compliance levels.

Trading standards teams at councils nationwide have been alarmed at the results of some of their test purchases to ensure retailers are complying with the law.

> 'Trading standards teams are uncovering some shocking abuses of the law'

Underage

Investigations discovered that seven out of 29 shops (nearly one in four), including two major supermarket chains, sold a knife to a person under 18 in test purchases.

Four retailers, including a major supermarket chain, sold either razor blades or craft knives to a 15-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy.

Although most retailers passed test purchases on underage knife sales, council trading standards teams remain concerned with those who broke the law, particularly when latest figures from the Office for National Statistics show there were 34,703 recorded knife crimes in 2016/17, a 20 per cent increase on the previous year. Those who failed test purchases have either been prosecuted or cautioned, face prosecution or have received warnings and compliance advice on underage knife sales.

Cllr Simon Blackburn, Chair of the LGA's Safer and Stronger Communities Board, said:

"Despite most retailers passing test purchases of knives, trading standards teams at councils across the country are uncovering some shocking abuses of the law.

Managed

"Knife crime has risen significantly in the past year. Clearly there are many different ways that people access knives, whether from home, high street stores or online sales, but we need to make sure that the retail supply of knives is managed robustly across all sales points.

"With councils experiencing ongoing funding pressures, we are calling on the retail industry to step up and fund underage test purchasing activities and liaise with councils to help improve safety standards and compliance with the law on knife sales.

"Councils will be working with retailers to educate them about their responsibilities when it comes to selling knives, continue to carry out test purchasing and won't hesitate to take enforcement action against anyone selling such dangerous weapons unlawfully.

Anyone who suspects that knives are being sold illegally should contact their local council's Trading Standards via Citizens Advice on 03454 040506

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Social housing group to install carbon monoxide detection alarms

HUNDREDS of homes in West Lancashire will be given new alarms to help combat carbon monoxide poisoning.

Social housing provider Regenda, which owns more than 650 homes across both West Lancs and Sefton, will send out the new Aico Ei208 alarm to every property.

The detection alarm is designed to allow engineers to quickly extract data from the unit via a smart phone application. A simple to read report is generated immediately, giving details of any incidents, along with historical data.

While many private landlords have been required to install both smoke and carbon monoxide alarms since the introduction of new legislation in 2015, there has been no such legislation for providers of social housing.

However, Regenda has decided to roll out the new installations across both its Regenda Homes and Redwing Living properties.

Andrew Grice, compliance technical manager at Regenda Homes, said: "We are passionate about protecting our customers and reducing any risks to the lowest level possible. The alarm installation programme is a 10-month project and will be carried out by our in-house contractor, M&Y Maintenance and Construction, at the time of the gas service."

Dangers

Neal Hooper, managing director of Aico, added: "We are delighted to see Regenda taking the lead in protecting tenants from the potential dangers of a carbon monoxide leak.

"Carbon monoxide is known as the silent killer; you can't see it, smell it or taste it. It can be emitted from appliances such as cookers, boilers, wood burners and open fires. Fitting a quality alarm offers another level of protection to tenants, keeping them safe in their homes."

According to NHS UK, more than 200 people go to hospital with suspected carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning each year, resulting in around 50 deaths.

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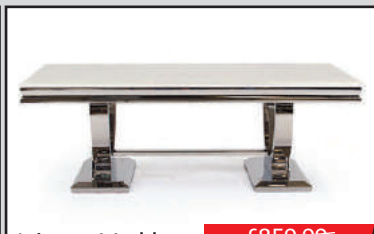

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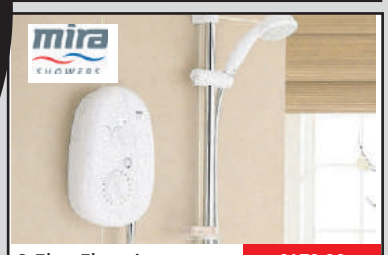

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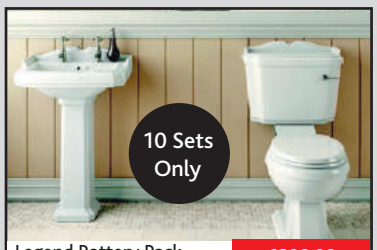

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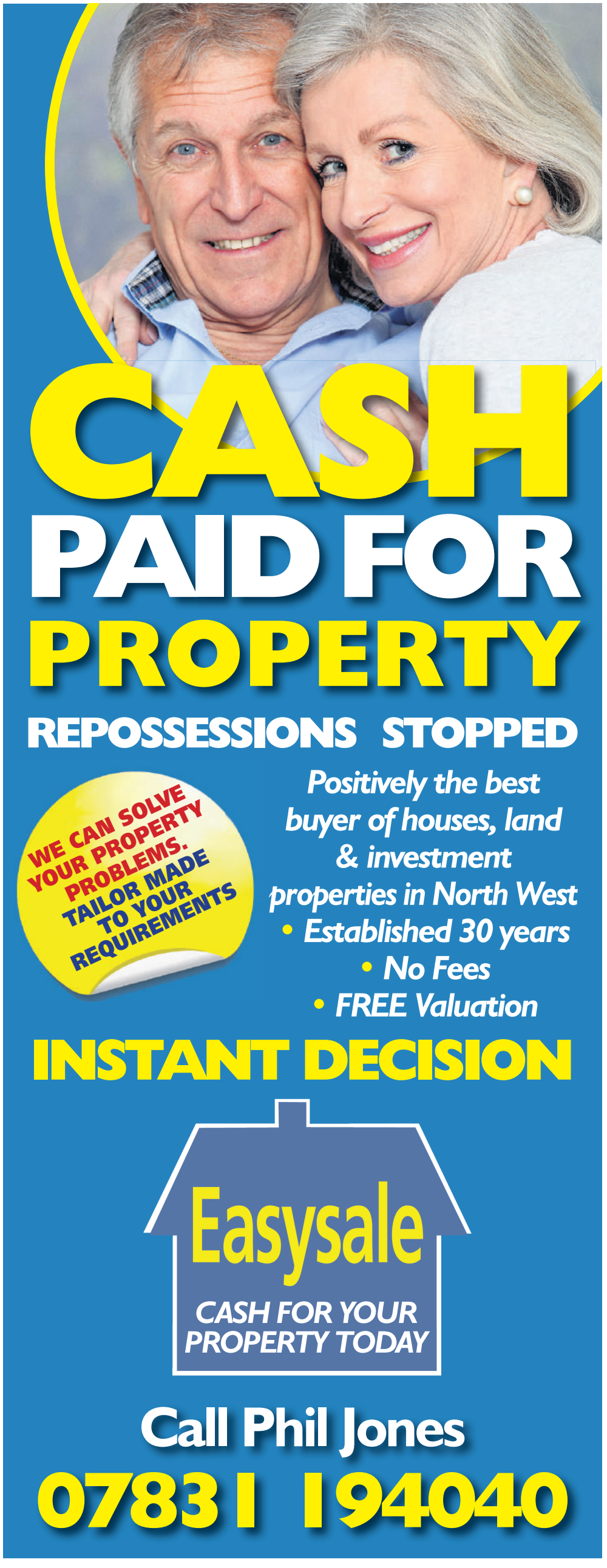

Some of the young gardeners at the festival

Green-fingered pupils show off their gardening skills

GREEN-fingered pupils from primary schools across West Lancs gathered to celebrate their school gardening achievements.

A total of 70 children from eight schools took part in the Show What You Grow Festival held at West Lancs College.

The children took along their school-grown produce, homemade scarecrows and magnificent displays of drawings, paintings and photos of their gardening work to the event.

Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of of West Lancashire, Councillor Noel Delaney and Ann Stubbert opened the day and the children then enthusiastically took part in activities such as making a veggie Pizza Face, an allotment quiz, and a Grow Your Own activity book.

After lunch, the children took to the stage to give presentations about their gardening clubs and the day ended with a prizegiving.

Skelmersdale-based business All About Food donated a prize for the Best Chilli Plant. The lucky winning school was Pinfold Primary whose gardening club will visit All About Food's office, The Tree House, to find out more about their partnership to grow chillies with Southern African farmers and also sustainable agriculture.

The event was organised by the Community Food Growing Project of West Lancs CVS (as part of the Active West Lancs programme) in conjunction with West Lancs Allotment Federation and West Lancashire College; funded by Up Holland Tawd Vale Lions; and supported by the local business community with M.A. Forshaw of Scarisbrick providing the vegetables and Morrisons the prizes.

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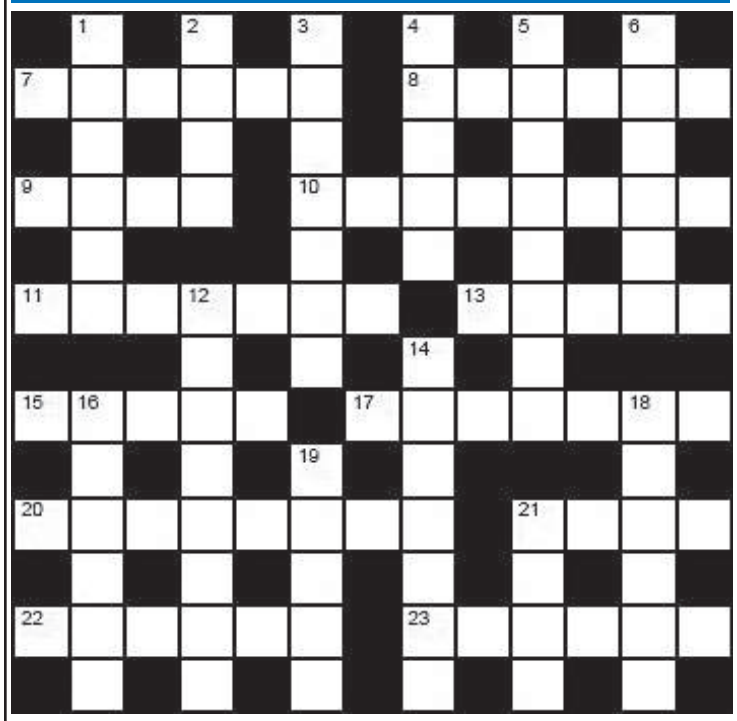

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Power politics. 8. Mediocre. 9. Troy. 10. Oatmeal. 12. Thigh. 14. Smoke. 16. Rawhide. 19. Bran. 20. Numerous. 22. Table football.

Down: 1. Rote. 2. Tedium. 3. Special. 4. Alder. 5. Stitch. 6. Act of God. 11. Armorial. 13. Palmtop. 15. Kindly. 17. Hereby. 18. Sniff. 21. Ugli.

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ACROSS

7. Skin condition (6)
8. Buoyant (6)
9. Move or cause to move into a sloping position (4)
10. Tall, black fur headwear worn by Guards on ceremonial occasions (8)
11. Collapse or cause to collapse violently inwards (7)
13. Romany (5)
15. A sequence of continuous action in a play or film (5)
17. Defeat heavily (7)
20. Rocket launch (5, 3)
21. Informal term for a stupid person (4)
22. Exercise or practise in preparation for a sporting contest or performance (5, 2)
23. Taken without permission (6)

DOWN

1. Rift or division caused by differences in opinion or belief (6)
2. Nuisance (4)
3. Fast-paced Brazilian dance (7)
4. Inuit canoe (5)
5. Said to a person who has just sneezed (5, 3)
6. Women's public toilets (6)
12. Solitary (8)
14. Abundant (7)
16. The part around the neck of a shirt or blouse (6)
18. Profession, occupation (7)
19. Two-door car with fixed roof and sloping rear (5)
21. Drop of a thick liquid or viscous substance (4)

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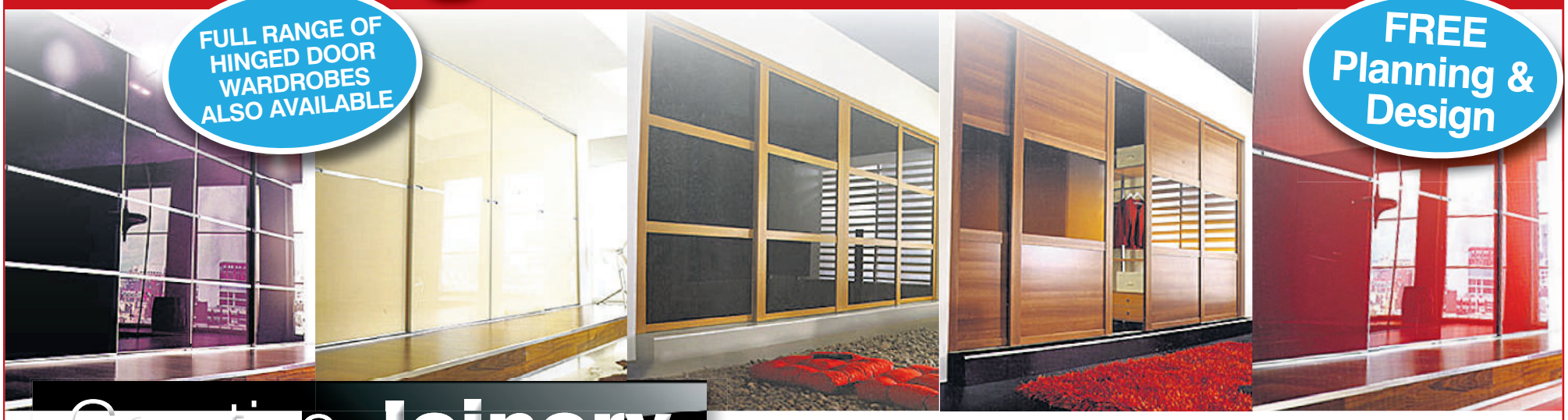

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MOORLAND 80% WOOL TWIST - 40oz Heavy Duty Wool, In 4 Shades S.C.C TOP SELLER	£15.99 sq yd / £19.12 m²
COUNTRYWEAVE- 100% Wool - Classic Natural Loop Style Carpet in 4 Colours	£15.99 sq yd / £19.12 m²
STAINFREE TWEED - Bleach Clean, Heavy Domestic S.C.C TOP SELLER	£15.99 sq yd / £19.12 m²
SERENDIPITY - Super Thick 70oz Saxony, Very Hard Wear, 4 Colours	£19.99 sq yd / £23.50 m²
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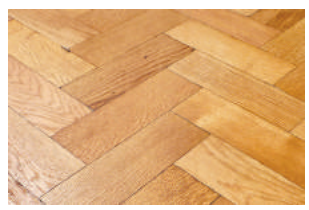

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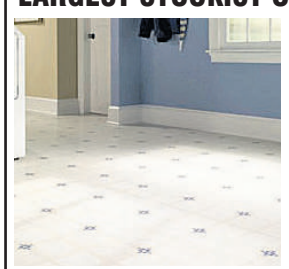

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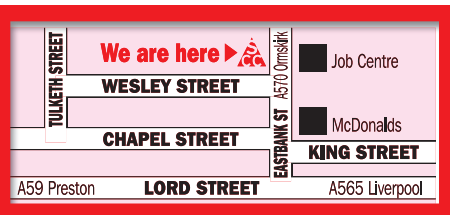

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Winter Sun

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- ✔ Services of an English-speaking representative

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- ✔ Airport taxes and return transfer from the airport to your hotel

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- ✔ Airport taxes and return transfer from the airport to your hotel
- ✔ Services of an English-speaking representative

The advertised price is correct as of 24 July 2017 and is based upon departure from Manchester airport on 30 September 2017.

VIEW ONLINE AT
www.omega-holidays.com/AMN300
QUOTE CODE: AMN300

Organised by Omega Holidays plc, ABTA V4782. ATOL Protected 6081. Single supplement applies. Subject to availability. †We have included the current flight price within the above package price. Should the cost of flights change the package price may vary. The final price will be confirmed to you at time of booking.

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Charity calls for better communication support for patients with hearing problems

Report by **Kenny Parker**

THE UK's largest hearing loss charity, Action on Hearing Loss, is urging GPs and other health and social care practitioners to ensure local residents who are deaf or have hearing loss receive the right communication support.

It follows a recent review by NHS England which found that almost a year since the Accessible Information Standard became law, more than half of patients - including more than 23,000 in West Lancs - have not noticed any improvement in getting accessible information or communication support from NHS services.

The standard, which came into force on August 1 last year, requires all publicly-funded health and adult social care organisations to meet the communication needs of people with a disability, impairment or sensory loss, including the one in six people living with hearing loss and deafness.

Prior to its implementation, more than a quarter of patients with hearing loss did not understand their diagnosis after visiting their GP and two in three British Sign Language (BSL) users did not get an interpreter.

The review found that more than two-thirds of patients had not been asked about their information and communication needs by NHS services over the last six months.

Almost a third of patients also reported that they do not usually get or have never received the communication support they need from NHS services. Many people with deafness and hearing loss still struggled to contact GP and hospital services when they needed to, and felt that staff did not know how to communicate with them.

The release of the review comes ahead of Care Quality Commission (CQC) plans to incorporate adherence to the Accessible Information Standard into its inspection criteria fromOctober.

Milestone

Roger Wicks, director of policy and campaigns at Action on Hearing Loss, said: "The Accessible Information Standard was an important milestone It is clear, however, that more work is needed to ensure it is consistently implemented and enforced.

"People who are deaf or have hearing loss have long been denied the fundamental right to have equal access to the full benefits of our healthcare system and we believe that the standard, properly implemented, will have a great impact.

"While we know that some patients have seen improvements, it's vitally important that all patients with communication needs are experiencing tangible, positive change."

A spokesperson from NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), said: "The aim of the Accessible Information Standard is to make sure that people who have a disability, impairment or sensory loss, receive information that they can access and understand and any communication support that they need.

"All organisations that provide NHS or adult social care services must follow the Accessible Information Standard. This includes NHS Trusts and NHS Foundation Trusts, independent contractors and providers from the independent and voluntary sectors.

"The CCG adheres to the NHS Standard contract with all of our health commissioned services and this covers both NHS and independent providers. All of our providers must sign up to a number of stringent conditions that ensure equity of access, equality and non-discrimination.

"Ensuring that our entire population is represented and that we communicate in an easily accessible way is of the upmost importance to the CCG."

Young musicians raise £1,240 for Alder Hey Children's Hospital

MORE than 70 children sang and played their hearts out over two nights when Sound Affects Music Studios, Ormskirk held their popular annual Summer Concerts in aid of charity.

The event, held at The Stanley Club in Liverpool Road North, Burscough was supported by friends and family.

And thanks to fantastic auction and raffle donations by PRS Guitars, Boss, Marshall, Orange and Rosetti, altogether, £1,240 was raised for Alder Hey Children's Hospital.

Just a few of the students who took part in the Summer Concerts

Owner of the studios in New Court Way, Tim Lovbley, said: "All of our students have music lessons here at Sound Affects Music Studios and some also participate in our Sound Affects Live Band Programme. We are immensely proud of all our performers."

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27th Jun 2018	15	Exploring Remote Spitsbergen	£2,399pp	Door-to-door transfers within 90 miles*
12th Jul 2018	8	Charming Cities of France & Guernsey	£1,099pp	Parking or £50pp spend on board
25th Jul 2018	14	Greenland, Iceland and Norway	£1,999pp	Door-to-door transfers within 90 miles*
17th Aug 2018	15	The Fjords of Greenland	£2,499pp	Door-to-door transfers within 90 miles*
15th Sept 2018	7	Lochs of Scotland	£999pp	Parking or £50pp spend on board
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Care home residents swing by for Open-themed tea

RESIDENTS from care homes in West Lancashire and Sefton got into the swing of things when The Open Golf Championship came to Royal Birkdale.

Staff at Athena Health Care Group organised for the Mayor of Sefton, Councillor Dave Robinson, to join residents from their homes, Parklands Lodge in Southport and Abbey Wood Lodge in Ormskirk on a day out to the resort's Ramada Plaza Hotel for afternoon tea with champagne last week.

And the party even bumped into officials from The Open while making their way back to the coach afterwards!

Lesley Malone, events co-ordinator at Athena Health Care Group, said: "We enjoyed celebrating the Royal Birkdale Open in Southport

"We had a lovely afternoon listening to one of our residents reminiscing as she used to play at lot of golf.

"Then, while getting back on the coach, the ladies bumped into some officials from The Open to round off a perfect afternoon!

"We believe meaningful events like celebrating well-known sports events promote healthy wellbeing and ensures that elderly people are still involved in the community."

Staff and residents from the Athena Health Care Group's two homes bumped into officials from The Open after their golf-themed afternoon tea in Southport

Charity offers support for cancer sufferers seeking affordable holiday insurance

Report by **Kenny Parker**

CANCER sufferers seeking affordable travel insurance are being urged to contact Macmillan Cancer Support for help after research showed that they are having to pay more for their cover.

A survey of more than 2,000 cancer sufferers, conducted by YouGov on behalf of the charity, showed that on average they paid £133 for their holiday policies - nearly four times the average cost of an annual travel policy for the general public.

And 1% of those questioned paid more than £1,000 for their cover.

Macmillan wants the public to spread the word about its 'Give us a break' campaign on social media and also get in touch if they have been affected by issues in getting travel insurance at macmillan.org.uk/giveusabreak.

The charity say that in 2016, around 500 people in the North West turned to them for help with travel insurance, including a woman from Burscough who was diagnosed with head and neck cancer in 1994.

She said: "We like our holidays and we weren't going to give up on them because of my diagnosis, but I didn't expect to find it so difficult to get insurance cover. Although I had travel insurance, I couldn't get cover for head and neck cancer so we took the risk, went away and hoped for the best.

"I was fine until 2013 when the cancer returned and we decided we needed to get proper cover. Fortunately, I found a list of insurance companies on the Macmillan website, which include cover for a cancer diagnosis.

"People who have had cancer tend to have regular check-ups so in many ways are less likely to fall ill unexpectedly."

Caroline Flynn, Macmillan Cancer information and support manager in West Lancashire, said: "We get lots of visitors to our c entres asking about travel insurance, it is a common issue in the area. They just want a break when they need it most, to recuperate, celebrate the end of their treatment or spend precious time with friends or family.

"Instead they often find they are asked insensitive questions by insurers, pay extortionately high premiums or run the risk of travelling without cover for cancer-related claims."

A spokesperson for the Association of British Insurers said: "Travel insurers pay out more on medical expenses than any other type of claim and it is common for those with serious pre-existing conditions like cancer to pay more for their travel insurance as the costs of medical treatment are often significantly higher."

For more information contact the Macmillan Information and Support Centre at the Concourse in Skelmersdale, tel. 06195 656533. This is open from 1 to 5pm, Monday to Friday, no appointment necessary, or visit community.macmillan.org.uk.

Get your weekly shop - and a weekend weather forecast!

AN Ormskirk supermarket has introduced weekly localised weather forecasts to help customers plan their barbecue shopping requirements and keep them up to date with the latest weekend predictions in the area.

The weekend weather forecasts will be placed at the front of the Morrisons store in Park Road each Thursday for the duration of the summer holidays to help customers buy the right food for the weekend and help reduce food waste.

Morrisons is working with MetraWeather, a global leader in weather forecasting, to provide local information for each of the company's stores.

The 'Local BBQ Forecasts' kicked off this week and there will also be weather announcements over the store tannoy to remind customers during their shopping trip.

Localised alerts, also shown on the weatherboard at the front of the store, will be updated at 5pm every Thursday throughout the summer to help customers plan for a BBQ in the typically unreliable British weather.

Store manager, Hannah Evans, said: "We can't change the weather but we hope that by giving our customers up-to-date local forecasts we will help them plan their shopping."

MONDAY
LYDIATE
Lydiate Village Centre,
Lambshear Lane
Monday 9am & 11am
Paula: 07484 263698

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre,
Lyndhurst
Monday 11am & 1pm
Sue: 07817 444580

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
Monday 3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Sue: 01695 420 305

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines
Monday 6.30pm
Michelle: 07931 125172

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco),
Aintree Lane
Monday 9.30am & 11.30am
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco),
Aintree Lane
Monday 5pm & 7pm
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Wardens Club,
Blaguegate Lane,
Monday 5pm & 7pm
Paula: 07484 263698
NEW CONSULTANT

TUESDAY
OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Wardens Club,
Blaguegate Lane
Tuesday 9.15 & 11.15am
Paula: 07484 263698
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WEDNESDAY
BURSCOUGH
Burscough British Legion,
Lord Street
Wednesday 3.30pm 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Kathy: 01695 423 658

FAZAKERLEY
Federation Community Centre,
Formosa Drive (opposite
the library by the steps)
Wednesday 5pm & 6.30pm
Eileen: 0151 548 0658

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
Wednesday 9.30 & 11.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
Wednesday 5.30 & 7.30pm
Tina: 0151 548 4266

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
Wednesday 4.30 & 6.30pm
Sue: 07957 531 346

UP HOLLAND
Up Holland Methodist Church,
Alma Hill
Wednesday 9.30am
Sarah: 07969 395302

UP HOLLAND
Up Holland Methodist Church,
Alma Hill
Wednesday 3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Sarah: 07969 395302

THURSDAY
AUGHTON
Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane
Thursday 8.00am & 10.00am
Zoe: 01695 580 966

AUGHTON
Scout and Guide Hut
(behind Christ Church), Long Lane
Thursday 5.30 & 7.30pm
Zoe: 01695 580 966

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
Thursday 3.00pm 5:00pm & 7.00pm
Sue: 07957 531346

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre,
Birleywood
Thursday 9.30am & 11.30am
Jackie: 07888 830892

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre,
Birleywood
Thursday 4.30pm & 6.30pm
Jackie: 07888 830892

FRIDAY
MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
Friday 9:30am & 11:30am
Sue: 07957 531346

SATURDAY
OLD SKELMERSDALE
Greenhill Lane Community Hall
Beech Close *(Off Lancaster Cres)*
Saturday 8am & 10am
Sarah: 07969 395302

ORMSKIRK
The Toby Carvery
(Fiveways)
Private Function
Room, County Road
Saturday 7.30am & 9.30am
Hayley: 07583 762529

ORMSKIRK
St Anne's School, Aughton Street,
Ormskirk
Saturday 10.30am & 12.30pm
Sue: 07817 444580

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
Saturday 9am & 11am
Gill: 07921 222405

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Week of celebrations to mark hospital anniversary

STAFF, consultants and patients enjoyed a week of celebrations to mark Renacres Hospital's 30th anniversary.

Over the past three decades the hospital in Halsall has treated thousands of people serving the independent sector, as well as working in partnership with the NHS.

To mark the special occasion, the staff engagement group and general manager, Greg O'Neill organised a week of celebrations and staff incentives to thank staff and consultants for their hard work, commitment and contribution to the hospital and patients from the surrounding area.

The celebrations started with a plaque unveiling and complimentary 30th cupcakes, lanyards and mugs for staff.

Then throughout the week, staff and consultants were treated to free lunch, raffle entry for a luxury hamper worth £180 and those with a sweet-tooth also had an opportunity to sample the tasty delights of an ice cream van.

The week culminated with a 30th anniversary ball at Hurlston Hall Golf & Country Club in Ormskirk featuring a long service awards ceremony, charity raffle and live entertainment from the Mersey Boys.

The party-goers and guests also dug deep for the hospital's charity of the year and managed to raise an astounding £5,200 for Queenscourt Hospice from ticket and raffle sales.

Greg O'Neill said: "On behalf of Renacres Hospital I would just like to say thank-you to all our staff and consultants who have made the hospital the success it is today.

"And thanks also to everyone who attended the 30th anniversary ball and helped us to raise a whopping £5,200 for Queenscourt Hospice."

Renacre Hospital general manager Greg O'Neil unveils the plaque watched by members of the staff engagement group

Merseyrail tops for passenger satisfaction

MERSEYRAIL has been awarded the highest mark among franchised operators in the National Rail Passenger Survey (spring 2017) for the fourth time - securing 94 per cent for overall satisfaction.

The score - their third highest ever and four percentage points above the same period last year - was achieved despite the Wirral line, which makes up half of the network, being partially closed for six months for major track renewal work by Network Rail.

Merseyrail outperformed all other regional rail operators in 29 of the 39 areas covered, with overall satisfaction coming in at seven percentage points above the regional score.

The biannual survey is conducted by independent consumer watchdog, Transport Focus, a respected industry barometer.

Merseyrail managing director, Jan Chaudhryvan der Velde, commented: "These results show that broadly, passengers are content with our service. We have introduced a raft of initiatives to tackle delays, including strengthening our social media team based in our control centre, extending their hours and a commitment to rapid response."

Councillor Liam Robinson, chair of the Combined Authority Transport Committee, which oversees the work of Merseytravel, added: "We're really pleased to see that customer satisfaction levels for Merseyrail passengers are rated as the highest in the country once again, despite the six-months of disruptions during the Wirral Line track renewal work."

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Carra's soccer schools come to town

FORMER Liverpool and England defender Jamie Carragher is bringing his popular soccer schools to Ormksirk.

From Monday, August 14 to Thursday, August 17 boys and girls aged between five and 12 can go along to St Bede's Catholic High School in St Anne's Road to learn footballing drills and skills.

The aim of the camps is to create a fun and safe environment in which the players can develop both their football skills and their social skills.

They will run from 9am to 3pm with players following a structured programme under the guidance of qualified coaches on different technical aspects each day and trying to implement them into their game.

Every player will receive a personalised certificate, a medal and have their picture taken with Carragher's replica Champions League trophy.

To book a place, call academy director James Olsen on 07795 954 446.

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Thousands are expected to watch the parade of classic cars at the Ormskirk MotorFest as in previous years.

Volunteer marshals wanted for this year's MotorFest

THE Ormskirk MotorFest returns to the town centre on Sunday, August 27 and organisers are once again looking for volunteer marshals to join in the fun and make the event go smoothly.

Thousands of people are expected to enjoy the free motoring extravaganza, one of the North West's biggest free family events.

More than 300 classic and competition vehicles from all eras of motoring will be on display in Coronation Park and Ormskirk town centre streets.

Volunteer marshals are needed to help with the parade laps which are due to take place in the afternoon, so are required from 12.30pm.

The Ormskirk MotorFest is a free event organised by Aintree Circuit Club, supported by West Lancashire Borough Council.

Councillor John Hodson, the council's portfolio holder for planning, said: "Volunteer marshals play a key role in making the Ormskirk MotorFest memorable for everyone, and have a lot of fun at the event."

And Mike Ashcroft, Aintree Circuit Club chairman, added: "Volunteering to be a marshal is a great way to become involved in the MotorFest. So please sign up as soon as you can to become part of the team making this fantastic event a reality."

Expenses

Marshals will be on duty to assist vehicles to get out onto the parade route and to be positioned at locations around the course to ensure the cavalcade goes smoothly.

For the parades, marshals will need to report to the marshals' centre by 12.30pm as they will need to register first and attend a marshals' briefing before going out on post for 2pm and finishing around 5pm.

To volunteer to be a marshal, visit www.ormskirkmotorfest.com by Sunday, August 20. The online registration form is in the registrations section of the website. Marshals attending will receive an expenses payment of £20 and refreshments will be provided. You must be signed on by 12.30pm.

The website has a lot of other information about the event, as does www.westlancs.gov.uk/motorfest.

The Ormskirk MotorFest is in line with the Ormskirk Town Centre Strategy, one of the aims of which is to have more events in Ormskirk town centre.

Cllr. Hodson added: "With many thousands of visitors expected we hope town centre businesses will take advantage of this great opportunity and open up on the day."

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Ukulele festival is back after striking a chord!

THANKS to rave reviews of last year's event, the stringtastic Parbulele Ukulele Festival is set to return!

For a whole three days, from August 4 through to the 6, Parbold will be jumping to the sound of the four stringed instrument.

International bands from as far away as Rio de Janerio are booked to play in the village hall on Friday and Saturday evening – events preceded by a meat feast barbecue.

The newly formed Parbold Junior Strummers (PJ's) will open the festival on Saturday and Sunday at 11am on the open mic stage at Mill Leat, and between 11am to 5pm local ukulele bands will play in the beer gardens of the Railway, Windmill, Stocks and Wayfarer pubs and at the specially created Music Village, situated alongside the Leeds Liverpool and Canal.

Organisers are also providing barge rides for those wishing to play on board or simply travel the canal.

In addition, ukulele lessons will be availbale for children on board the Rose of Parbold barge.

The festival is more than a celebration of the ukulele, however, and there will be plenty to cater for the whole family.

There will be a children's area with bouncy castles and ice cream and

Parbulele Ukulele Festival is set to return

Music Village, there will be a catering facility along with various trade stands selling everything from cigar box guitars to local craft items.

There will also be a beer tent selling the festival's very own beer! – Mr PARBULELE – brewed specially by Martland Brewery, along with CHONKINGFECKLE ale.

For those not yet familiar with the ukulele but would like to learn there will be workshops in the village hall for adult beginners, while performing artists will be on hand throughout the weekend to share their skills with more experienced players.

Tickets for all the events and concerts are available from Gary Smith (email: gs.svs-ltd@live.co.uk or phone 07495 332 770) or pay on the day.

Programmes are just £2 including a raffle ticket to win a ukulele valued at over £150.

Entry to the festival is £3 per day or £5 for the weekend.

The concerts are £15, the adult workshops £10, and the children's workshops £5.

Popular music festival returns

PARBOLD Douglas Music's secret is that each year it presents a wide variety of internationally renowned musicians, who perform a dazzling array of classical, folk and traditional music.

The performances are held in the 200 seat Auditorium Arena in Parbold Village and have a special ambience because the audience is close to the musicians and so become truly involved in the playing and music.

The performers thrive on this rapport with the audience and together with the superb Steinway, this ambience draws them back for memorable performances at Parbold.

The international concert pianist, Paul Lewis returns on Saturday, September 23 to perform the same programme that he will be playing in Brussels, Malmo and at New York's Carnegie Hall in November.

Liverpool-born Paul Lewis is now regarded as one of the leading musicians of his generation.

He is followed on October 7 by the Elias Quartet, the first of a series of groups this season. Classical musicians to their fingertips, the Elias love to kick up their heels with some Scottish Fiddle music and will present a post–concert event of Scottish music at the end of their evening recital.

Earlier they will be holding an afternoon workshop on Scottish Fiddle Music, co-ordinated with Folkus, The Folk Arts Network of the Northwest.

Also in October, they welcome the 12 ensemble, a bold, versatile and virtuosic group of London's finest and most exciting chamber musicians, who create performances that are as intimate, dedicated and as dynamic as that of a string quartet but with the magnificent sound of twelve world-class string players.

Adult tickets vary in price according to each artist performing, ranging from £10 to £18.

Douglas Music has set up a 'Shuttle to the Show' scheme to offer a subsidised mini-coach service to and from its concerts for members of the audience who would love to come to the events but either lack transport or would rather be without the driving and parking.

To find out more first book your concert ticket at Douglas Music's Box Office and then telephone the bus control room 01704 893373 between 9am and 2pm to arrange travel.

For ticket enquiries, call 01257 498 452.

'Godfather of Blues' set to perform

HE is one of the most iconic and prolific British musicians of all time in any genre, let alone that which has given him the title of 'The Godfather of the Blues'.

Now, having amassed over 60 albums in a career that has spanned six decades, the legendary John Mayall, will embark on a massive UK tour this coming October.

The shows follow on from the release of his latest album 'Talk About That' earlier this year – an incredible feat, as it is his 65th album of original material.

The guitarist, singer and organist rose to fame in the early 1960's UK Blues revolution with the formation of his band John Mayall and the Bluesbreakers, who featured a cast of legendary members such as Eric Clapton, Mick Taylor, Peter Green, and Mick Fleetwood in different line-ups of the group.

He will perform at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall on October 20 and Southport Theatre on November 1 and tickets are available to buy now from box offices.

John Mayall is regarded as the 'Godfather of the Blues' for his legacy

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Family festival to promote culture

LIVERPOOL Loves is back for 2017 this weekend with a free two-day festival which takes over the city on Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 August.

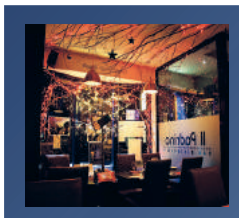
New for 2017, Liverpool Loves will take place across two locations and over two days; the main stage located in Derby Square, whilst Liverpool ONE will host an exciting family and community programme of cultural and well-being activities.

Just in time for the summer holidays, organisers Orb CIC are now excited to reveal the full family and community programme at the festival's second site in Liverpool ONE running from 12pm – 5pm on Saturday and Sunday.

The On The Green programme in Chavasse Park and The Culturebox Stage on Thomas Steers Way will feature a whole host of family fun including masterclasses and demonstrations, plus top-class live entertainment.

Liverpool Loves, organised by Orb CIC, is a celebration of all things Liverpool – with four core themes of business, culture, food and well-being showcasing the best of life in the region.

DINING OUT



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£130	from £169

Clifton Hotel, Scarborough
• Overlooking North Bay • Lift • Car Park (fee)
★Stunning North Sea views★

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
11, 18 Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sep 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct	7, 14, 21, 28 Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct
from £79.95	from £129.95

2/3/4 Nights from £79.95

Pontins

Nr Weston-s-Mare, Sand Bay
• Indoor pool • Entertainment • Car park
★Adults only ★Half board breaks★

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
4, 11, 18, 25 Aug 1, 15, 29 Sep 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct	7, 14, 21, 28 Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct
from £55	£119.95 from

North Wales, Prestatyn
• Indoor pool • Entertainment • Car park
★Half board breaks ★Kids 2-13 half price★

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
11, 18, 25 Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sep 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct	7, 14, 21, 28 Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct
from £55	£109.95 from

2/4 Nights from £55

Llandudno

1/2/3/4 Nights from £34.95

Grand Hotel
Nestled at the foot of the Great Orme with magnificent views over the bay, the seafront Grand Hotel overlooks the pier and promenade on the North Shore. Lift. Entertainment.

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★3 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
from £85	£119.95 from	£159.95 from
4, 11, 18, 25 Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sep 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov	4, 11, 18, 25 Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sep 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov	7, 14, 21, 28 Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov

Ambassador Hotel
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★1 Night Arrive Sunday	★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★3 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
£34.95	from £69.95	from £99.95	from £129.95
6, 13 Aug 3, 10, 17, 24 Sep 1, 8, 15, 22 Oct 5, 12, 19, 26 Nov	11 Aug, 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sep 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov	4, 11, 18, 25 Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sep 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov	7, 14, 21, 28 Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov

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Derwentwater Hotel, Keswick
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4, 11, Bank Hol 25 Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sep 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct	7, 14, 21, Bank Hol, 28 Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct

New President Hotel, Blackpool
• Lift • Car Park (fee) • Seafront
★Illuminations 1 Sep - 5 Nov★

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
from £75	£129.95 from
11, 18 Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sep 6, 13, 27 Oct	7, 14, 21, 28 Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct

Bay Royal Hotel, Whitby
• Lift • Seafront • Entertainment • Car Park (fee)
★Cliff top hotel, magnificent North Sea Views★

★3 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
from £135	from £189
4, 11, 18, 25 Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sep 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct	7, 14, 21, 28 Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct

Headway Hotel, Morecambe
• Lift • Car Park • Entertainment
★Seafront hotel, stunning views★

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
£79.95 from	£159.95 from
4, 11, 18 Aug 1, 8, 22, 29 Sep 6, 13, 20 Oct	7, 14, 21, 28 Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct

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Thursday 3rd

THE ABBA REUNION TRIBUTE SHOW
Friday 4th

BARRY STEELE & FRIENDS: THE ROY ORBISON STORY
Saturday 5th

THAT'LL BE THE DAY
Saturday 26th

September

THE DREAMBOYS
Friday 1st

JANE McDONALD - MAKING MEMORIES
Saturday 2nd

RIP IT UP
Dancing through the 50's with JAY McGUINESS, NATALIE LOWE & LOUIS SMITH
Tuesday 12th

NIGHTS ON BROADWAY - THE BEE GEES STORY
Friday 15th

DINOSAUR WORLD
Wednesday 20th - Thursday 21st

T.REXTASY
Friday 22nd

THE SIMON AND GARFUNKEL STORY
Saturday 23rd

THE ILLEGAL EAGLES
Friday 29th

October

JOE LONGTHORNE (rearranged date)
Wednesday 4th

THE ELO EXPERIENCE
Friday 6th

SHOWADDYWADDY
Saturday 7th

THE WIZARD OF OZ
The perfect half term treat!
Tuesday 24th - Thursday 26th

FASTLOVE - A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE MICHAEL
Friday 27th

THE SOLID GOLD ROCK N ROLL SHOW featuring MARTY WILDE, EDEN KANE, MIKE BERRY, MARK WYNTER and THE WILDCATS
Tuesday 31st

November

JOHN MAYALL IN CONCERT
Wednesday1st

MIDGE URE, THE CHRISTIANS, ALTERED IMAGES
Saturday 4th

ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN
Thursday 11th

BOWIE EXPERIENCE - THE GOLDEN YEARS TOUR
Saturday 11th

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Thu 10th	Hay on Wye Thursday Market	£18.90
Fri 11th	Shrewsbury Flower Show *inc admission*	£38.90
Sat 12th	Llandudno	£13.90
Sun 13th	Shakespeare's Stratford	£18.90
Tue 15th	Biddulph Grange Gardens & Little Moreton Hall *inc adm*	£28.90
Wed 16th	Beaumaris & Plas Newydd (National Trust) *inc admission*	£25.90
Thu 17th	Keswick & Ambleside	£17.90
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LEATHER COAT Red, retro, leather coat. Fully lined with pockets; size 12-14. VGC £30 07757262904

LEATHER COAT Women's, NEXT black leather coat. Fully lined with side pockets, size 8. Good condition £20 07757262904

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LONSDALE NEOPRENE black shorts-men's size medium (waist 78-90cm). Still boxed. Unused. £8 07855222552

BOYS BLUE Hi Gear hoodie aged 13/14 years . 32 inch chest. £6 0151 9321725

BLACK MACKENZIE baker jacket size large boys. £6 0151 9321725

NEXT BLACK hooded bubble coat. Aged 12 years. £12 - 0151 9321725

BOYS BLUE HiGear bubble coat. Aged 11/12 years. £10 - 0151 9321725

SNOW BOOTS boys size 3 in grey. Good as new £10 - 0151 9321725

WEDDING DRESS and vail, ivory, pearl detail £200 ono 07837435355

JAEGER Size 10 Coral Trouser Suit with Short Sleeved Blouse - Ex Condition £20 07989677525

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COMPUTER WORKSTATION desk lots of space with shelves and shelf for keyboard beech wood may deliver £40 ono 01515263851

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DIY

TRAILER 6x4x17, Lights, Jockey Wheel. Spare Wheel, Tailboard, Excellent Condition. Ideal for Gardener or Builder £240 Tel 01695 571291

INTERNAL DOORS Two white moulded internal 2 panel doors. White Oak grain finish with handles and hinges. Used but unmarked and very good condition £20 01772816637

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SMALL WASHBASIN White Twfords wall mounted basin (45w 38d) with gold finish classic taps and waste. Excellent condition. £25 01772816637

CEMENT MIXER a belle minimix 150 cement mixer, 240v comes with stand and is on wheels, excellent condition used once £285 07921815283

STAIRS HANDRAIL Cottage loaf handrail 3.6 metre 3.6 infill Painted white v.g.c.£15 Aughton 01695 420950

CEMENT MIXER 50 litre near new condition used for one job £60 01704579076

GARDENING

LUXAFLEX AWNING SUNSHADE, in white metal casing, 8ft x 7ft approx, excellent condition, £145. 0151 5230902

CUPRINOL ULTIMATE Garden Wood Preserver two unopened 4 litre cans Autumn Brown colour; cost £33 each at B&Q. Pair £40. 01704 877594

ATCO QUALCAST Electric Lawnmower 12S Windsor with steel roller, very good condition. Cost £500 bargain at £65 ONO. 0151 5271013

FLYMO DUO an electric flymo leaf blower and electric flymo strimmer selling as duo will separate if needed £35 -duo 07921815283

GARDEN MESH A roll of GREEN PLASTIC garden mesh. length 5.5 m. x 0.5 m. Mesh size 19 mm. £8. 01704 840023

MCCULLOCK STRIMMER a petrol mccullock strimmer in need of some parts but was a gd runner £30 07921815283

QUALCAST PANTHER Push lawnmower, good condition £10 01695 423724

CUPRIONAL ULTIMATE Garden wood preserver "Golden Oak" 2 x 4l £30 for two 0151 5263761

DUST BIN with lid £3. 01704 534573

HOBBIES

CARAVAN AWNING To fit 17/18 ft caravan, good condition.BARGAIN. £100. +Porch awning, good condition. BARGAIN. £40.+ Sun canopy easy to erect. BARGAIN. £30. 07752568443

MURPHY RICHARDS BREAD MAKER Make your own bread with this 48220 Series Fastbake, which is in very good condition, white in colour. Makes bread, runs, muffins, doughnuts, cake mix and much more. £20 07434841029

HOBBIES

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MAINS ADAPTER for Aquaroll with float for caravan £45 new. Camping wardrobe £10. Aliko Jack and Leg Winder £15. 07944 536241

BINOCULARS Viking ASW 8X40 field of view 8.2 comes with soft case perfect for birdwatching. Excellent condition £75 01704 562317

CAMERA CATALOGUES Hasselblad magazines, booklets, 14 in total circa 1969. Very good condition £75 the lot. May split 01704 562317

CAR BIKE-RACK Universal bike rack for hatch back / estate car. Holds 3 bikes. Very good condition. Little used. £10 01704 840023

GIBSON PICKUP Retail boxed genuine 490T double black pickup. Genuine USA, full length armoured cable, excellent condition £100 01704831977

GUITAR TUNER Brand New Boss Tu-70 chromatic guitar and bass tuner, un-used and boxed. Very handy to tune on the go £25 01704831977

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LEGO 2 Lego educational construction sets 9614 and 9616 brand new £15 each Aughton 01695 420950

MEERKAT BOOKS Volume set of 6 assorted titles hard back brand new great for collector etc £18 ring only no texts 07504685036

QUOTES FOUR Rings and two Pins £40. Dolls Pram with matching handbag £10. 01704 808614

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1968 LIVERPOOL fully signed football hunt st john etc signed back in the 60s bargain £100 01515319425/07773242918

BOW SAW Wooden bow saw from 60s collectors item Aughton 01695 420950

HOBBIES

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HOME ENTERTAINMENT

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SAMSUNG S5 Excellent condition Screen perfect,Couple of marks of bezel, spare battery. Black. Boxed, charger, case. Well looked after. Almost new. £85ono 07857924820

TV AERIAL by labgear, megaboost amplified 16db, new. Never fitted, with power supply, fixing kit, 10m cable, bought from screwfix, cost £40, accept £15 Tel southport 07809 255966

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LG32" HDTV flat screen inc remote control Perfect working order £55 Ormskirk location 01695421820

TELEVISION 26 inch screen silver surround excellent condition £70 ono may deliver 01515263851

AUDIO CAMBRIDGE DVD/CD/DIVD, all regions, slim design, £20 07980 162415

HOUSE AND HOME

MOVING HOUSE SALE Laura Ashley Settee £250. Double Bed £20. Dining Table, round glass top & four cast chairs, cream seats £25. Marks & Spencer Settee £30. Dressing Stool £5. Wishing Well & Liquers £10. Call 07814 737598 (no text please, will call you back)

BEAUTIFUL LIVING ROOM SUITE, was £3,000, unwanted gift, £650 quick sale. New corner cabinet bathroom mirror, specialised non-steam, in box, was £100 sell £60. 07815 742861

HOUSE AND HOME

DINING SUITE Beautiful dining table with 6 chairs (2 carvers) upholstered in cream. Matching cabinet with illuminated glass display and bottom cupboard. Manufactured in 2000. VGC £120 ONO 01744885486

BESPOKE 2 SEATER SOFA 10 months old, plum, Black & Silver striped, + front Chrome casters £500 Tel 01704 539361or 07805 737614

HALOGEN OVEN table top. Brand new. £25, Box of new dinner plates £10 ono 01704 513122 07979726414

CHOCOLATE FONDUE Marks &Spencer 7 piece chocolate fondue set contains Stoneware warming pot, stand, 4 fondue Forks, tea light new in Box. Box slightly damaged. Perfect for dinner parties. £12 07486131930

BEIGE LOUNGE curtains (66"x66") -self colour but with a classic design embroidered into material. Made by Montgomery Interiors at Debenhams Expensive curtains in VGC. £150 07821417560/07855222552

LOUNGE CURTAINS beige silk material has an embroidered floral pattern in silk cotton with triple box pleat 66"x66" lined,bought in Debenhams southport, in great condition paid new £400 will sell £100 07821417560

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PILLOWS ONE Pair of Goose feather and down box pillows, with cotton zipped covers. Downland, Brand new in packet, unwanted purchase. £20 01704 530137

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FRIDGE FREEZER Hotpoint Iced Diamond, white, freezer at top, fridge at bottom. 135cm high, 55cm wide. Good condition. £75ono Southport 01704 544948

DINING TABLE Extending rosewood veneer, 1960s. 77cm wide, 107cm long, plus 46cm extension (folds in). Good condition, but used. £40 ono. Southport 01704 544948

HSL RISER/RECLINER Hardly used, dual motor,excellent condition,£500.2 fixed chairs in matching fabric Arizona Sand £250ea or all 3 £850.Will separate 07717152397/01704227141

HOUSE AND HOME

GOOD QUALITY Matching 2 Drawer TV Unit, Coffee Table & 3 Drawer Sideboard, Solid Dark Mahogany, High Gloss Finish, £400 Buyer to Collect 0151 2341794

HALL TABLES Two Matching Semi Circular Tables with Detailed Glass Inset Tops, Light Oak Finish, Any reasonable offer considered, Buyer to Collect 0151 2341794

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VARIOUS ITEMS of small furniture: Table and four Chairs, old Bureau, Sideboard, various Lamp Standards, Table Crockery, Glassware. Many items price offers 01695 575976

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BED Double chunky pine frame with headboard and footboard £65. New folding garden bistro table, lime green £10. Radiator 63" x24"brackets, modern single £5 07515 263939

LOUNGE CURTAINS excellent condition heavy lined beige curtains with pattern lounge and patio156x67 and 156x84 plus tiebacks cost £400 for sale £100 07866130810/01704 220458

CONSERVATORY FURNITURE Cane with Floral Design Material Double Seater Two Singles Dining Table Four Chairs Small Table Larger Table Tall cabinet Pouffe £400 01704 878518

ERCOL FURNITURE Old Colonial refectory table and four Windsor chairs and dresser with plate racks, dark wood in fair condition £200 01704870766

HAIR STRAIGHTENER Brush in white. Anti scald/temperature control/head massage function. New/boxed Bargain £5 01704220356

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KING SIZE MATTRESS Hand made top of the range orthopaedic mattress, 5 Ft wide,no base. Good overall condition. £30 May deliver. 01704 560150

FLOOR STANDING adjustable reading lamp with integral uplighter. Brushed chrome. Immaculate. Cost £89 accept £25 ono 01704 821720 or 07966101288

UPVC DOOR front door safety glass top and bottom letter box in middle, good condition. viewing recommended, open to offers to clear Ray 01704621415

WILLIS &GAMBLER light oak extendible dining table 6 chairs 2 carvers. Photo available by email. Buyer collects. £350. 01704 500665

DINNING TABLE Oak effect dinning table, with drop leaf, comes with chairs, good condition, absolute bargain only £65 01515316937

GOLD COLOURED 3 candle bulb ceiling light (3x60w bulbs|)+2 matching wall lights £8. Ceiling light alone £5 07855222552/07821417560

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SETTEE 2 seater settee from NEXT rust coloured fabric immaculate condition from smoke and pet free home £100 ono 07546808606

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KITCHEN TABLE 5' x 3' solid wood with 4 matching chairs £100 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

SOFAS 3 seater and 2 seater green leather and dark wood trim excellent condition supplied by stokers £200 01704 540504

DINING SET Oak table and 4 faux brown leather chairs. Excellent condition. H74 L114 D74 cm £100 o.n.o. 0151 9321725

FLUORESCENT TUBES 5 new unused in boxes replacement tubes 1200 mm (4 Ft) long £15 01704 560150

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DECANTER LABEL Royal Alderley ceramic whisky label with pink rose design Collectable £10 01704564732

LAMP TABLE Modern mahogany lamp table from Multiyork Excellent condition £50 01794564732

COFFEE TABLE Long gold and glass modern coffee table with two smaller nested tables.£75 01704564732

JOHN LEWIS glass and chrome console table 110 x 40 x 75h.Immaculate. Cost £199 accept £75 01704 821720 or 07966101288

GLASS AND chrome 60x60 side table. Immaculate, Cost £99 accept £20 01704 821720 or 07966101288

GLASS CAKE STANDS 4 one tier stands unusual design £5 each great for all occasions ring no texts 07504685036

CHEST FREEZER LEC, with separate drawer app, 2'6" x2, suitable for garage, good working order £50 01704 540782

SIDEBOARD 1920's bow fronted, 2 outside cupboards, 3 centre drawers, good condition £30 01704 576856

OAK TABLE Rustic, four chairs, extend to 5ft x 3ft depth, very heavy £350. Rustic slatted double bed oak £200 07594621248

DOUBLE HEADBOARD red velvet £23. White chest of drawers £15 vgc. Gas hob by stoves £85. New over £200 07594604523

GARDEN LOUNGERS two multi purpose, full length, floral cushions, easy folding, vgc £30 01704 214812

TABLE LAMP A traditional oil style brass effect table lamp with unusual glass shade. £35 07434841029

ANTIQUE BRASS 3 candle bulb ceiling light (3x60w bulbs). VGC. Bought at Homebase £5 07855222552/07821417560

TABLE PROTECTOR oblong (30"x66")-one side felt, the other water repellant/heat resistant. £5 07855222552/07821417560

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BRASS FRET For in front of fire good condition £25 01704564732

TABLE LAMP Gold candelabra table lamp with pink elliptical shade £20 01704564732

LEATHER SETTEE 2 seater dark brown leather settee. £45 ono. 07586344434 /01695574253

SINGLE DIVAN Two drawer with mattress, immaculate condition, hardly used £65 01695 422406

SIEMANS DISHWASHER Excellent condition, call for offers 01695 574428

INSINK ERATOR Mod.55 waste disposal unit. New unused. 0.5HP. £70. 01772 814349

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PORTABLE HEATER Caller gas with gas bottle, good condition £60 01704 830994

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MISC

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HOTTER SHOES Brand new hotter ladies shoes "Sunrise" Black size 7 Still in box. Wide fitting comfort shoes Velcro fastening. Bought for £65. Will accept £30 07486131930

CLOTHES DRYER Brand new Fold out Dryer by Coopers of Stortford. Still wrapped in cellophane. Silver grey. Folds flat for compact storage. £10 Bargain 07486131930

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SCHOOL DESK Victorian child's folding wooden folding school style desk. Looks good as a piece of stand alone furniture or hobby table £35 01704 229035

AVERY SCALES 1960's double sided, 2 lb /1 kg scales.Ex shop. Commercial or show piece in a large kitchen. Good working order. £60 or vonf 01704 229035

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LEFT-HANDED golf driver dunlope 65i X lovely big head first to see will buy £15 01515319425/07773242918

LADIES DIOR sunglasses still in case great condition model 8230 first to see will buy bargain £25 07773242918

MAPRESS PIPEGUN a novapress mapress pipe gun and 110 transformer comes with 5 jaw attachments £300 07921815283

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TOYS AND GAMES

BRATZ FLASHBACK FEVER RETRO-RIDE VAN Used and collectors item for the future, with some accessories. 24" long 11" wide 10" high grey plastic, includes in car working radio and lights. Bargain. £29 07434841029

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(POPPY LANE, BICKERSTAFFE, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle or cycle to proceed over that length of Poppy Lane, Bickerstaffe from a point 90 metres south west of a property called Willow Brook to its junction with Croppers Lane.

2. The prohibition will be operative from 0900 hours on 16/08/2017 until 1700 hours on 23/08/2017 or until completion of the works within this period.

3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Poppy Lane - Scarth Hill Lane - Long Lane - Croppers Lane - Poppy Lane and vice versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow utilities works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/8061/WH]

Lancashire County Council

www.lancashire.gov.uk

PUBLIC NOTICES

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APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE

Notice is given that ADMIRAL TAVERNS LIMITED has applied to Sefton Council to vary a Premises Licence in respect of premises known as The Scotch Piper Inn, Southport Road, Lydiate, L31 4HD.

- The proposed variation application is to amend the licensing floor plan layout due to a small increase in trading area.

If you wish to make any representations in connection with this application, you must write to: Sefton Council, Licensing Department, Magdalen House, 30 Trinity Road, Bootle, L20 3NJ on or before 23rd August 2017. The Council's Licensing Register where a record of this application may be inspected is kept at the above address. The register may also be viewed online at: www.sefton.gov.uk. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application for the grant of a Premises Licence. The maximum penalty upon summary conviction is a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale (currently £5000).

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(SLUICE LANE, RUFFORD, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Sluice Lane, Rufford from its Junction with New Lane for approximately 20 metres in an easterly direction.

2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 2100 hours until 0600 hours on 14/08/2017 until 18/08/2017 or until completion of the works within this period.

3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- No diversion is required.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow utilities works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/8238/WH]

Lancashire County Council

www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(BROOKFIELD LANE, AUGHTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Brookfield Lane, Aughton from the Junction of Butchers Lane for approximately 35 metres to outside property no 100 Brookfield Lane.

2. The prohibition will be operative from 0900 hours on 14/08/2017 until 1700 hours on 13/10/2017 or until completion of the works within this period.

3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Butchers Lane - Springfield Road - Smithy Lane - Brookfield Lane and vice versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow utilities works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/8660/WH]

Lancashire County Council

www.lancashire.gov.uk

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
COTTAGE LANE AND ASMALL LANE, ORMSIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE (ROAD HUMPS)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council propose to make the above pedestrian crossing under Section 90A of the **Highways Act 1980**, as amended, the effect of which will be to introduce road humps in the following locations:

a) Cottage Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 15 metres south from its junction with Cottage Close;
b) Cottage Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 16 metres north from its junction with Garnett Green;
c) Cottage Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 32 metres south west from its junction with The Orchard;
d) Cottage Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 64 metres north from its junction with The Orchard;
e) Cottage Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 15 metres south from its junction with Redgate;
f) Cottage Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 76 metres south east from its junction with Brighouse Close;
g) Cottage Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 27 metres south from its junction with The Reeds;
h) Cottage Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 36 metres south east from its junction with Halsall Lane;
i) Asmall Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 10 metres south from its junction with Asmall Close;
j) Asmall Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 24 metres north from its junction with Whiterails Drive;
k) Asmall Lane, Ormskirk, the centre of the hump will be approximately 31 metres north west from its junction with Tennyson Drive.

The road humps will have a maximum height not exceeding 75 millimetres with a total length of 3.7 metres.

A copy of the relevant notice and plan, indicating the proposal may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of the West Lancashire Borough Council, PO Box 16, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DF and at the offices of The Director of Governance, Finance & Public Services, Lancashire County Council, Christ Church Precinct, County Hall, Preston PR1 8XJ. Any representations or objections (specifying the grounds on which they are made) relating to the proposal must be made in writing and should be sent to The Director of Governance, Finance & Public Services, Lancashire County Council, P O Box 78, County Hall, Preston PR1 8XJ or by e-mail to tro-consultation@lancashire.gov.uk **quoting ref: LSG4.AFR.894.4688** before 30 August 2017.

Ian Young, Director of Governance, Finance and Public Services
02 August 2017

Lancashire County Council

www.lancashire.gov.uk

PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire District Council

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Application No: 2017/0663/FUL Erection of 35 no. dwelling houses including access and associated infrastructure at Land To The West Of Evenwood Court, Evenwood, Tanhouse, Skelmersdale.

Application No: 2017/0664/FUL Erection of 104 dwelling houses including access and associated infrastructure at Land To The West Of, Birch Green Road, Skelmersdale.

Application No: 2017/0665/FUL Erection of 72 dwelling houses including access and associated infrastructure at Site Of Former Sports Centre, Digmoor Road, Digmoor, Skelmersdale.

The proposed development affects a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 applies.

The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.

Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Dated: 2nd August 2017
Director of Development and Regeneration PDNOT959

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IN MEMORIAM

RIDING HELEN

Do not stand in our garden and cry,
I am still here - I did not die.
I am the million hailstone that tap against our window,
I am the snow flake on your hand that looks like crisp white flowers,
I am the sunlight on ripened fruit tree's in our our garden,
I am the gentle autumn rain.
I sit in our Garden and it eases the pain
I love our garden oh so much
I am the wind flowing through the trees
and quiet birds in circling flight.
so do not stand in our garden and cry,
As I am still here - I did not die. I know we miss each other every Day
It will always be our garden mum and dad and it looks lovely somewhere over the rainbow for the kids to play.
XXX Mum and Dad XXXX
We miss you Helen every day, the pain it never stops hurting but nothing like you went through, you always said oh Behave & gave me a big kiss on the cheek when ever we saw each other your my hero.
you would be so proud of Mum & Dad Robby and the boys & girls XXXX
Mark Kerry And Family
xxxxxxxxxx
Four Years 25th July
Helens Garden

DEATHS

BOLTON ALAN

On July 30th 2017
Peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family
aged 82 years

Much loved Husband of Marjorie, devoted Dad of Barry, Julie, Gillian and Tracey. Dear Father-In-Law of Kevin and Colin, cherished Grandad and Great-Grandad of all his Grandchildren will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.
Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Wednesday 9th August at 10.45am. Family flowers only please by request, donations if desired for Cancer Research.
Enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane.
Tel: 01695 559868

ARMISTEAD FRANCES ISABEL

July 27th 2017
Peacefully in hospital
aged 90 years

Wife of the late Edwin. Mother of John Stephen, Andrew and David. Grandmother and Great-Grandmother to her many Grandchildren and Great-Grandad in the UK and the USA. Frances will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.
Funeral Mass at St. Helens Church, Crosby on Wednesday August 9th 2017 at 1.30pm followed by a private Cremation.
No flowers please but if desired donations to Age Concern Crosby C/o H. Leslie Humphreys 69 Liverpool Road, Crosby, L23 5SE
Tel: 0151 924 4805

COOK ALAN

Passed away peacefully at Southport Hospital on 22nd July 2017
Aged 81 years of Ormskirk Formerly of Rainford.

Dearly loved Husband of Minty (Veronica), much loved Dad of Tim, Simon and Sandra, dear Father-in-law of Tony and a dear Grandad of Thomas & Jacob.
Funeral Service at Emmanuel Methodist Church, Ormskirk on Thursday 10th August 2017 at 11.15am, followed by committal at West Lancs Crematorium, Burscough. Family flowers only please, but donation if so desired for Emmanuel Methodist Church and The Stroke Association. Donations & further enquiries please to Lisa Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton.
Tele: 01695 424888.

DEATHS

BOLTON MARGARET

25th July 2017
Peacefully in hospital
Aged 80 years
of Ormskirk

The dearly loved Wife of Michael, loving Mum of John and Catherine and devoted Grandmum of Oliver, Robin and Nathan.
Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough on Thursday 3rd August 2017 at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for MacMillan Cancer Support.
All enquiries to Melanie Hardman of H Hardman & Co., Independent Family funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick.
Tel:- 01695 722122/720012

ROUGHLEY BRIAN G

26th July 2017
Peacefully at his home in Skelmersdale
Aged 80 years.

The dearly loved partner of Joan. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.
Funeral service and interment at St Paul's Church, Skelmersdale on Friday 4th August 2017 at 1.30pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for North West Cancer Research.
All enquiries to Melanie Hardman of H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skemersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick.
Tel: 01695 722122 / 722012

CURRAN ROSE

29th July 2017
Peacefully at Queenscourt Hospice
aged 91 years
of Skelmersdale

The dearly loved Wife of the late Henry, loving Mum of Lorette and Brian, devoted Nan of Christopher, Gary, Joanne and Frankie and to all her Great-Grandchildren.
Funeral service at St. Helens Crematorium on Thursday 10th August 2017 at 11.00am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Queenscourt Hospice. All enquiries to Malanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale , Ormskirk & Scarbrick.
Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

HOWARD MARJORIE

22nd July 2017
Aged 87 years

Beloved Wife of Alan for 67 years. Loving Mum of Jackie and Ian, Mother-in-law to Gary and Nicky.
Much loved Nanny of Robert, Jenny and Emma and her Great Grandchildren Sophie, Katie, Ben, James, Harry and Charlotte. Dear Sister of Joan. She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Thursday 3rd August at 12.40pm. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Alzheimer's Society.
Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport PR9 9DR.
Telephone: 01704 500086.

LLOYD DOREEN MAY (Formerly Willis)

Passed away peacefully on 26th July 2017
aged 77 years
of Ormskirk

Much loved Mum of Derek and Diane, dear Mother-In-Law of Wendy and Richard, loving Nan of Kristopher, Shaun, Daniel, Elizabeth and Edward, Great-Grandmother of Iyla and Archie. Loved and missed by all her family and friends.
Funeral service at West Lancs Crematorium on Tuesday 8th August 2017 at 11.30am, Family flowers only please by request, but donations if so desired for Queenscourt Hospice, Donations and further enquiries please to Lisa Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 22a Liverpool Road North, Burscough.
Tele: 01704 891555

TORRENS MARGARET (May)

Passed away peacefully on 30th July 2017
aged 87 years
of Ormskirk

Dearly loved Wife of the late James, much loved Mum of Yvette and dear Mother-In-Law of Nick, loved and missed by all her family and friends.
Funeral service at West Lancs Crematorium on Wednesday 9th August 2017 at 11.30am. Family flowers only please by request, but donations are being gratefully received for The British Heart Foundation.
Donations and further enquires please to Lisa Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 22a Liverpool Road North, Burscough
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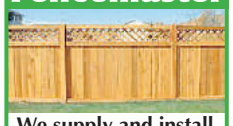

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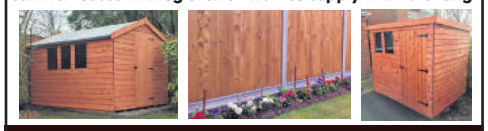

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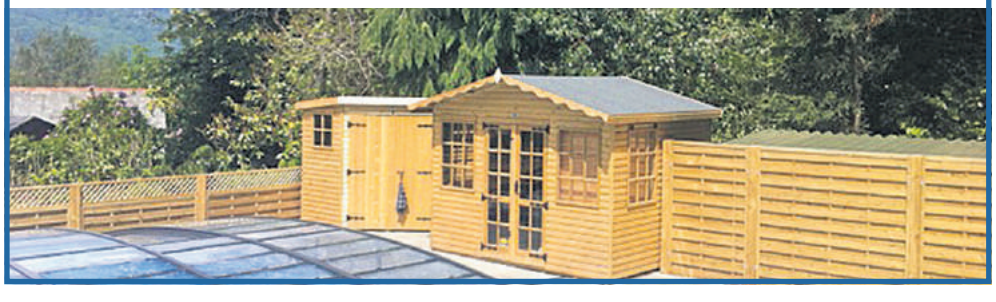

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Recent reports of 'the car's death' have been greatly exaggerated!

APOLOGIES to Mark Twain's estate for having to shamelessly pilfer one of his better-known quotes. Reports of the car's death – which you've probably read over the past week or so – have been greatly exaggerated.

Chances are you'll already be aware of the Government's intention to ban sales of new petrol and diesel cars as of 2040, which a million internet bores instantly took to mean the death knell for motoring fun as we know it. The party that Karl Benz and his pals threw back in 1886 is finally over, because we all overdid it and got drunk on AC Cobras and Range Rover Sports. But calling it quits isn't really doing us as a species, particularly those of who love cars, much credit. Ever since we figured out that we had opposable thumbs and could light fires we've been pretty good at working out answers to things, and even by the Government's own prescription we have roughly 23 years to solve this one.

I'm not going to get into how we make the clean energy that propels a zero emissions car but the end result's a lot better than it used to be.

Seven years ago I drove an electric MINI that had a battery so huge it took up the back seats, a range of barely 100 miles and engine braking so severe you could pull up at roundabouts without touching the middle pedal.

It only took another two years for the motor industry to invent an electric car that was fun to drive – take a bow, Renault Twizy – and fast forward to 2017 and the charging points at motorway service stations are crammed with Nissan Leafs and Teslas.

If we've made it this far in seven years, you probably won't need a diesel Golf as a new car in two decades' time. The bit I worry about is what happens with all the old ones.

The more intelligent people at Westminster have already said that banning them isn't the answer, partly because outlawing the MGB is a bit like banning Buckingham Palace and more importantly because the nation's classic car hobby is worth £5.5 billion to the British economy (and it's still growing). Horses have been old hat to commuters since the Austin Seven showed up, but they're still allowed to use our roads.

But the thing with horses is that you only need straw, carrots and a decent vet to keep them going.

If everyone else is driving electric cars in 2040 will there still be petrol stations to fill up the MGF or the Peugeot 205 GTI?

Or places that can do a new battery for an Audi TT?

The car, I honestly reckon, will live on. It just might be a bit trickier than it used to be.

David Simister is editor of Classic Car Weekly.

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Amount of Credit	£13,583.08
47 Monthly Payments	£199.98
Optional Final Payment	£5,796.00
Interest Charges	£1,611.98
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Total Amount Payable	£16,594.06
APR Representative	4.2%

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Optional Final Payment	£3,604
Interest Charges	£1,059.76
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£12,420.06
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Optional Final Payment	£6,509
Interest Charges	£1,900.05
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£18,461
APR Representative	4.2%

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1.2 Energised
£2000 Scrappage Allowance

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Deposit Allowance	£1,600
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Customer Deposit	£159.98
Amount of Credit	£10,481.19
47 Monthly Payments	£159.98
Optional Final Payment	£4,183
Interest Charges	£1,220.87
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£13,461.06
APR Representative	4.2%

Brand New Vauxhall Corsa
Limited Edition 1.4 75PS 3dr
£2000 Scrappage Allowance

Cash Price	£13,289.54
Deposit Allowance	£1,800
Scrappage Allowance	£2,000
Customer Deposit	£179
Amount of Credit	£11,310.54
45 Monthly Payments	£179.98
Optional Final Payment	£4,139
Interest Charges	£1,287.52
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£14,875.06
APR Representative	5.2%

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1.0T 12V EcoFLEX SRi 5dr
£2000 Scrappage Allowance

Cash Price	£16,873.07
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Scrappage Allowance	£2,000
Customer Deposit	£219
Amount of Credit	£14,786
47 Monthly Payments	£219
Optional Final Payment	£6,087
Interest Charges	£1,725.93
Annual Mileage	5,000
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1.4T Active
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††Scrappage terms and conditions: Traded-in car must have been registered in your name and address for at least 90 days. Selected models only. Offer is for new vehicles ordered and subsequently registered by 30th September 2017. Offer available at participating Retailers only. Terms, conditions and exclusions apply. On the road prices include number plates, delivery, Vehicle Excise Duty, first registration fee and VAT. Offers available on orders or registrations before 30th September 2017, subject to availability and change. Offers available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 units (purchase only excluding B2B supported units). All other sales categories are excluded; cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offers may not apply to all Retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. #Fuel consumption information is offi cial government environmental data, tested in accordance with the relevant EU directive. Official EU-regulated test data is provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. General Motors UK Limited t/a Vauxhall Motors reserves the right to change, amend or withdraw this offer at any point in time. Correct at time of going to press. All prices shown include a minimum part exchange allowance of £500.

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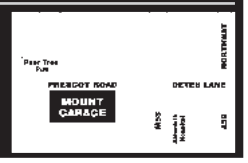

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Navdeep hits 94 before van Niekerk takes six to claim win for Burscough

BURSCOUGH had a convincing 82 run win at Fleetwood Hesketh in the First Division.

The visitors were put in to bat and declared after 54 overs on 204-8, thanks to valuable runs from Navdeep Aujla (94), Alan Murray (34) and Chris Andrews (26), whilst Lee Bolton 3-13 and Steve Gregory 3-51 took the bulk of the wickets.

In reply, Huw Summerfield (40), Jack Wrigglesworth (28) and Neil Rimmer (17) gave Hesketh hope, but a lack runs from down the order saw the rest make just 16 runs between them as they were dismissed for 122, with Ben van Niekerk 6-21 and James Dickinson 3-14 doing the damage with the ball.

Skelmersdale are second from bottom in the table after suffering a seven wicket defeat at Newton-le-Willows. Mertin Brierley top scored with 59 in Skelmersdale's total of 168 all out.

Newton opener Ben Walkden then carried his bat for 50 while Muhammad Iqbal scored 56 as Newton reached their target in the 42nd over.

In the Second Division Maghull are just eleven points off promotion after a 138 run win at bottom placed Prescot & Odyssey, after being asked to bat Maghull rattled up 227-6 declared, thanks in the main to Greg Gillespie (66) and Jon Ring (62), with Lawrence Mason taking 3-51.

In reply 5-19 from William Mashinge and 3-12 from Anthony Molloy made sure the hosts got nowhere near their target as they were dismissed for 89.

Ormskirk march on with a crushing 103-run win

ORMSKIRK continued their march to the Liverpool & District Cricket Competition Premier Division title with a 103 run win at Lytham,

The visitors chose to bat and thanks to John Armstrong (54), Andy Baybutt (44) and Gary Knight (33) were able to declare on 204-9, with Lancashire skipper Steven Croft taking 3-27 with the ball.

In reply, Michael Guptill-Bunce hit 31 but the rest offered little else as they were dismissed for 101, with Josh Bohannon taking 5-21.

Northern suffered an eight wicket home defeat to fellow mid-table side Colwyn Bay on Saturday, *writes Glenn Wallworth.*

Northern were asked to bat and managed to put 168-9 declared on the board, with Chris Laker (60), skipper James Cole (30) and Elliot Bradley (29) scoring the majority of the runs, whilst Paul Jenkins 4-46 and Adam Campion 3-45 shone with the ball.

In reply, an unbeaten 62 from Zac Gidlow, 55 from George Johansen and 46 not out from Rumesh Buddhika took the visitors to victory on 170-2.

Southport & Birkdale recorded their first win of the campaign and lifted themselves off the foot of the table with a 130 run home win over defending champions Leigh.

S&B elected to bat first and put 216 up on the board, thanks in the main to Chris Brownlow (56), Brad Yates (49) and Tearon Gleeson (35), with 14 year old spinner Nathan Graham taking 4-28 on his first team debut for Leigh.

In reply, Leigh slipped from 57-1 to 86 all out thanks to a mesmerising spell of spin bowling from skipper Chris Firth who claimed 7-14.

Ainsdale slipped to the bottom of the table after an eight wicket home defeat by New Brighton, after electing to bat the hosts were eventually dismissed in the 66th over for 205, with Faiz Fazal (68) taking his seasons run tally to 630, whilst Andrew Clarke 6-55 and Ashraf Nawab 3-80 were the chief tormentors with the ball.

In reply, Clarke smashed 93 and skipper Mark Rowland an unbeaten 68* as the visitors cruised to victory on 209-2.

Bootle had a convincing nine wicket win at Formby, the hosts were asked to bat first and were quickly dismantled for just 49, thanks to a brilliant spell of seam bowling from Lancashire's Luke Procter 6-22 and Chris Liptrot 4-25.

In reply, Mike Farrell (25*) and Danny Davies (24*) eased Bootle to victory on 51-1.

Andy Owens strikes for Skelmersdale United against Warrington Town. Picture by John Driscoll

Owens signs for Skem as Linnets set for FA Cup clash

IF Burscough are to make it through to the FA Cup this season to play a Football League club, they will have negotiated six rounds to get there.

They open with an Extra Preliminary Round tie this Sunday, August 6 when they travel over the Pennines to play AFC Emley, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

AFC Emley are maybe better known as Emley and under that guise are not unknown to Burscough supporters, in fact they were conquered in what is arguably Burscough's greatest ever season 2002/03.

Burscough beat them 5-0 at Victoria Park in an FA Trophy last sixteen tie, before they went on to play Yeovil in the next round.

In the only other FA Cup meeting between the sides Burscough prevailed again 3-1, so previous records give the Linnets the edge.

Burscough can also travel into the hills above Huddersfield knowing that the form they have shown in pre-season is solid, including a 4-2 success at St Helens Town on Saturday in which they fought back from a goal down and fairly dominated the second-half. It is understood that if a replay is required it will be staged at Victoria Park on Tuesday, August 8 although that is unconfirmed.

Last night (Tuesday) Burscough will have completed their pre-season programme with a match at home to Vauxhall Motors, at the same time Skelmersdale will have played their penultimate scheduled game when Bootle will have visited Skem for what is expected to have been a classic encounter, especially with all the former Skelmersdale players now wearing the blue of Bootle.

Skelmersdale are set to complete their pre-season with a game at home to Gresley whose home base is Church Gresley near Swadlincote in Derbyshire.

The Moatmen play their football in Evo-Stik Division One South, so the game does represent an opportunity for Alan Rogers side to test themselves against a team from the same level.

Results have been mixed over the last couple of weeks for Skem, losing out against three North-West Counties teams but registering a thoroughly deserved 2-2 draw last Tuesday against a Warrington Town who are expected to be challenging in the higher reached of the Evo-Stik Premier Division.

Skelmersdale made a high profile signing last week too, centre-forward Andy Owens, a 27 year old 6ft 3in, who has a wealth of experience.

He is not known for the goals he scores but is very well known for the goals he creates for others.

He made his debut as a trialist against Warrington before putting pen to paper later on, he impressed especially with a left-foot drive into the bottom corner for Skem's opening goal.

Also committing to Skelmersdale this week was Nathan Randell a forward who was popular at Stormy Corner last season whilst on loan from Wigan Athletic, although young he proved that he has bottle in abundance and Alan Rogers knows exactly what he is getting for his money.

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